



ABG30D; 001

001

“That’s right, they’re F University’s Mr Perfect representatives”



“Alright, next we’ll have one of the most handsome guy in our school sing for us the song - *Guo Huo*. He is known as F University’s Mr Perfect, and it is said that girls who have seen him can’t help but fall in love, unless at the same time they have seen Zhang Lingyi. That’s right, he is the natural enemy of the unattractive and the end of goddesses.”

Screams and cheers erupted from below the stage.

“Let us grandly welcome the ‘lady killer’ Wang Guangning.”

Just as the host Sun Siyang, who was rather rotund and a had face full of joy, finished his exaggerated introduction, a tall and charming youth with facial features that could only be described as deep and moving walked out leisurely from behind the stage.

As he passed Sun Siyang, Wang Guangning stared at the other man and half-squinted at him, “Who let you mention Zhang Lingyi?”

Sun Siyang stuck out his tongue then retreated to the side. Below the stage, all the girls screamed wildly.

“Wang Guangning!”

“Wang Guangning!”

“Wang Guangning!”

The situation seemed almost out of control.

Wang Guangning smiled flirtatiously, then motioned for everyone below to quieten down. He raised the microphone and spoke as his voice which held an underlying sense of allure sounded out, “Thank you to everyone for coming. For the song today, I would like to dedicate it to a girl I like.”

“Waaa!”

Below, the audience was in an uproar. A girl’s sharp voice abruptly sounded out, “Is it me?!”

“Sorry, but it isn’t,” Wang Guangning calmly replied, obviously having experienced this before.

The audience was once again in chaos.

Realising that the situation was becoming out of control, Wang Guangning hurriedly spoke, “This song, I would like to dedicate to Yu Haining from the journalism faculty.”

“Waaa!” The audience cried out, as the song started playing and Wang Guangning’s voice echoed the music, singing along to the opening of the song.

“Was it I who promised you too much? Or did I just not give enough?”

Wang Guangning sang very well, and coupled with his striking features as well as affectionate and leisurely appearance, it immediately caused many girls to become intoxicated and heartbroken.

Wang Guangning gazed at the audience, seemingly calm on the surface, yet inside he had long felt refreshed.

Good. With this, he could move Yu Haining to death and earn her heart!

He would definitely win against Zhang Lingyi.



Wang Guangning was very handsome and tall, and when he smiled there was even a dimple. Most importantly, he was not only attractive with outstanding grades, but was also rich and had an excellent temperament.

He was simply like an idol actor unfolded in reality. Of course, this was only on the surface since at heart, he just a foolish and arrogant youth. However, just feeling proud on the inside was enough as when around others, he would adopt an elegant and humble appearance. This was the reason why from the sixth grade of primary school onwards, he was always the number one most handsome guy. He had countless female suitors and virtually no rivals.

This halo followed him until he came to university. Then he met the rival of his life, F University's Zhang Lingyi from the department of Human Resources Management. Apparently, he and Zhang Lingyi shared very similar pasts, with both having excellent appearances and reputation. Zhang Lingyi also managed to retain his title as the *xiao cao*¹, and came to this famous university situated in the south.

[1] : the male version of . It's used to describe the number one most attractive guy of the school.

Therefore, the two youths who from grew up being known as the one and only *xiao cao* had to share the title at F University. This didn't sit well with either Wang Guangning or Zhang Lingyi, and they both ended developing a secret rivalry with each other ever since the beginning of university.

If Wang Guangning joined the student union, then Zhang Lingyi would join the student association. If Wang Guangning became the president of the student union, then Zhang Lingyi would subsequently become the chairman of the student association.

If Wang Guangning received the first-grade scholarship of the Marketing department, then Zhang Lingyi would receive the first-grade scholarship for the Human Resources Management department. If it is said that today the top beauty of the Finance department confessed to him, then tomorrow the

top beauty of a neighbouring university would invite Zhang Lingyi to participate in activities.

These two youths competed from all aspects, from appearances to talent to popularity. The students at F university all knew that that these two handsome guys who were both the university's *xiao cao* were like fire and water, neither one put the other in their eyes. Even the girl they both liked were the same, Yu Haining who was the department beauty of the journalism faculty.

Yu Haining was younger than both Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi, and she possessed a charming smile and sweet voice paired with a snowy white complexion. In a place like the journalism faculty where beauties were as common as clouds, she still managed to pressure the other girls since she was endowed with assets that could even topple cities.

At F University's final competition for the top ten elite singers, Yu Haining was invited as a special guest. Wearing white cotton skirt and leisurely carrying a violin up the stage, he pure and refined aura captivated the entire school.

To Wang Guangning who didn't put any of the girls at F University in his eyes, only Yu Haining who possessed superior qualities was regarded as being worthy of him. So for the first time, the Wang Guangning who enjoyed being fervently chased after by the girls in the university, decided to chase after a girl himself.

Yet unexpectedly, Zhang Lingyi also took fancy to Yu Haining. After being sent a bouquet of flowers from Wang Guangning in the morning, Yu Haining would then receive chocolate from Zhang Lingyi in the afternoon. If Wang Guangning was to go to the library with Yu Haining on Saturday, then Zhang Lingyi would definitely ask Yu Haining out for a walk in the university on Sunday. Yet just like their previous competitions, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were both equally matched in their pursuit of Yu Haining.

Yu Haining accepted Wang Guangning's roses, but also accepted Zhang Lingyi's chocolate. She agreed to go read at the library with Wang

Guangning, yet also accompanied Zhang Lingyi on a walk around the university. They could accept there being two winners for all other competitions, but regarding this girl, they could not!

Therefore, Wang Guangning thought that it must be that he hadn't found the way to deeply move Yu Haining's heart. He spent nearly a day surfing Baidu and Weibo, until he finally came up with the perfect solution. In December every year, F University would hold a festival in the evening at the gymnasium to welcome new students and bade farewell to the old.

Wang Guangning believed that such a confession admitted before the entirety of the university was domineering, yet deep and moving. With this, he would definitely throw off Zhang Lingyi. So by taking advantage of the various connections and relationships he had accumulated from his years in the student union, Wang Guangning schemed up this sort of situation.



Just as Wang Guangning finished the song tenderly, a loud noise interrupted as Sun Siyang stumbled up the stage, "Students, I have good news to tell you all!"

Face red with excitement, Sun Siyang continued, "A few moments ago, our staff received a student's request to add an extra program..."

As Wang Guangning twisted the cap of the bottle of mineral water, a foreboding premonition rose in his heart. Sure enough, Sun Siyang announced in an exaggerated trembling voice, "This student shares the title with Wang Guangning as F University's *xiao cao*, and has stolen the hearts of millions of girls- *Zhang, Ling, Yi!*"

Sun Siyang gestured with his hand and Zhang Lingyi strode onto the stage. As he faced the audience with a smile, cheers erupted from below the stage.

"I apologise for suddenly making such a decision, I hope that I haven't affected everyone's mood. I am like Wang Guangning, wishing to use this hard to come by opportunity to sing a song for the girl I like. Haining, I hope you understand what I want to say."

The audience once again exploded in earth-shattering cheers. Zhang Lingyi's clear voice sounded out slowly as he sang the song - *Wo De Ge Sheng Li*. Wang Guangning was angry, this was the plan that he had carefully constructed, why should he yield such an opportunity to Zhang Lingyi? *There were some things which could be tolerated, but there were also other things which could not.*

“Zhang Lingyi, if you are a man, then come to the fake grass turf at three o'clock tomorrow afternoon,” spat out Wang Guangning aggressively, blocking Zhang Lingyi's path as he descended the stairs.

This was the first time Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi had challenged each other face to face. Although in the past they both competed incessantly, in reality they didn't interact with each other often. Instead, they maintained a pretence of peace on the surface as the student union and student association had to organise various events and activities together.

If it wasn't for Zhang Lingyi's intolerable act, why would Wang Guangning decide to go down this path and make himself abandon his elegant demeanour?!

Zhang Lingyi lifted his chin proudly, “Sure. I am a man, so I will solve this problem like a man.”



The next day at three o'clock in the afternoon, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi arrived on time at the fake grass turf. This turf was in fact F University's soccer field as the university had two fields, one which was grown with real grass, and the other with fake.

Since this field with the fake grass was in a relatively remote place, therefore usually not many people came here to exercise. Gradually, this field also became the default setting for F University's students to fight. No matter what the grudges were, boys would all settle their scores on this field. Sometimes, if you were lucky, a few beauties could also be seen tugging each other's hair.

The weather today was very suitable for fighting, with the cold and biting wind causing the dried leaves on the ground to whirl up. Standing opposite each other, Wang Guangning was higher than Zhang Lingyi by a fraction, but he was quite slim whereas Zhang Lingyi was more sturdy yet his imposing manner didn't lose to Wang Guangning's at all. With their clothes fluttering in the wind, they both gave off a feeling of being proud and solemn.

Slightly narrowing his eyes, Wang Guangning said, "First off, let's agree that hitting the face isn't allowed."

Zhang Lingyi smiled lightly, "Alright."

Just as he finished speaking, Wang Guangning already felt a blow hitting his stomach.

"Shit!"

Zhang Lingyi ignored his cursing and kicked out his leg, not willing to be outdone. The two people quickly entered a cycle. Wang Guangning was a member of the basketball club, while Zhang Lingyi was a member of the track and field team. They were both evenly matched, punching and avoiding each other vigorously.

The outcome was difficult to predict. Wang Guangning suffered a few blows to the stomach, and he grimaced in pain. Realising that this couldn't continue any longer, he ruthlessly kicked out with his leg and swept Zhang Lingyi to the ground. Continuing relentlessly, Wang Guangning then sat on Zhang Lingyi's stomach and delivered a punch towards his face.

"Fuck, you hit my face!"

Furious, Zhang Lingyi rolled them over and threw Wang Guangning to the ground, then retaliated by throwing a punch towards his face. With this, their previous agreement to not hit the face was broken.

The two viewed each other as being not pleasing to the eye, especially since the other's face was claimed to be comparable to their own. This really

made their teeth itch in resentment. Before, they could still maintain a pretence of being noble. Yet now that their deal was broken, all they desired was to hit the other's face until it was disfigured and would no longer be recognisable.

As a result, the sound of fists and shouts echoed throughout the field from time to time.

“Ah! You hit my eye.”

“Well you kicked my little brother...”

“Fuck, if you hit my nose again then I won't hold back...”

“You dare...”



The fight persisted for two hours, until finally the two lay on the ground, panting for breath. Their faces were too appalling to describe, painted with bruises of many different colours. Their bodies were exhausted, and even if they wanted to move, they couldn't.

“This isn't...isn't finished...wait until *loazi*² regains my breath, then we'll fight again.” Panting, Wang Guangning spoke. Although his voice was hard, but his eyes had already lost spirit as he gazed at the sky.

[2] : used in anger, out of contempt or as a show of arrogance. I'm sure many of you have seen this phrase, which translates to 'I, your father' or 'I, your daddy'.

Also unable to completely form a sentence, Zhang Lingyi replied, “Alright...later...*laozi* will break your...little...little brother!”

After that, a long silence ensued. The bodies of the two youths ached all over and they were unable to get up from the ground. Having finished what they wanted to say, neither wished to speak again.

As dusk fell, the field where not a soul was in sight appeared even more empty as the wind whistled through, mingling with the gasping of the two youths as they struggled to breathe.

“Honey, why did you come so late? Made me wait for so long~”

It was Yu Haining’s sweet voice speaking in a coquettish manner.

“I was only delayed...you know that I have to attend dinner parties every day. I just finished drinking wine with the mayor and discussed that project worth 100 million...” His words were slurred from intoxication and he finished speaking with a hiccup. It was obvious that the man who spoke had a hoarse voice as a result of long term alcohol and tobacco consumption.

Heart constricting, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi glanced at each other. Then, in a moment of tactic understanding, they both got up softly and stealthily headed towards the source of the voices. Next to the field outside the wired fence was a strip of asphalt road, and since this place was relatively remote, there usually wouldn’t be people walking around. The chances of vehicles passing by was even lower.

The two youths hid in a corner and peered out. Parked by the side of the road was a Mercedes-Benz which exuded the impression of a nouveau riche. Standing next to the car was a fierce looking, slightly bald fatty who had his hand entirely on Yu Haining’s ass.

Yu Haining’s back was towards Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi so the two could clearly see her ass being caressed by the man’s rough hand.

Pouting playfully, Yu Haining slapped the fatty’s arm,” You’re so bad. Didn’t you say that when you went to discuss the project you would bring me too? How come you went by yourself...”

“Ah, you’re so beautiful...if the mayor took a fancy to you, then what would I do?”

The fatty pinched Yu Haining’s ass, “I heard that you’re quite popular at your university. Last night there was even two *xiao cao* who competed for

you out of jealousy.”

Yu Haining laughed, her voice tinkling like the sound of a silver bell,
“Honey, you still don’t understand me? I’m only interested in a stable and mature man like you, not those kind of naïve young boys.”

“Ah, I know...little boys definitely wouldn’t have much money in their pockets.” As he talked, the fatty led her into the car. “Let’s go, I’ve already booked a room at *Di Hao*³ tonight you must properly accompany me.”

Di Hao was a five star hotel which was famous in the area.

[3] : meaning emperor and meaning grand or heroic.

First chapter done (’ ’) *:

You’ll love the interactions between Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi in this novel, they’re so sweet and hilarious~ >///<

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 002

002

“Then, let’s get revenge on society together”



The sun had already sunk down past the horizon. At night, the field was extremely cold and the streetlights were dim. A while after the fatty and Yu Haining had left, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were still rooted to the same spot, motionless.

As a burst of cool wind blew by, Zhang Lingyi finally opened his mouth first, “Say, do you think that person just then was Yu Haining’s boyfriend?”

In fact, anyone with a bit of common sense could guess Yu Haining and that fatty’s relationship. Zhang Lingyi asking such a question was nothing more than trying to comfort himself.

“Please don’t ask that.”

Wang Guangning clutched his head miserably, “Saying something like that will make me feel worthless compared to that damned fatty. I’d rather believe the fact that Yu Haining is being kept as a mistress.”

Zhang Lingyi lifted his head to look upwards and sighed, leaning back on his arms as they supported his body lay on the ground behind him, “Why are women so realistic?”

“It’s just that, when I was in my second year of university, I saw Yu Haining performing the violin at the evening festival. At that time, I thought she was

like an otherworldly fairy, pure and fresh, free from the vulgarities of the world.” Wang Guangning’s tone was melancholic.

“Right, last time when I gave her the chocolate and accidentally touched her hand, she had shyly blushed!”

“Yeah, when I sent her the flowers, she was also like that!” Wang Guangning had an expression of being hurt across his face, “Does she always use this move?”

“Then, did she sprain her ankle when she was walking with you and make you carry her?” Zhang Lingyi glanced sharply towards Wang Guangning.

“*En!*” Wang Guangning nodded his head, “That time, her large chest was plastered to my back, it was so soft that I almost lost control!”

“When we were sitting on the public bus, she said she had motion sickness and leaned her head on my shoulder in a very delicate manner!”

“The same thing happened to me when we sat on the bus. She wore low-cut clothes and while leaning on my shoulder, I could see her big, white chest!” As Wang Guangning recalled the scene which had once nearly made blood spurt from his nose, he could now only feel indescribable grief and indignation.

“Last night, when I finished singing the song for her, she fed me water.”

“Fuck, last night she wiped my sweat for me, even though I obviously wasn’t sweating.”

Wang Guangning said, “But when she was wiping my sweat yesterday, her chest touched my hand and it felt really flexible!”

“*Tch.* Can you not bring her chest into every little thing?” Zhang Lingyi’s tone was very disdainful.

“But every time she uses her chest to lure me.” Wang Guangning felt quite wronged.

The two youths looked at each other's face which were bruised black and blue, then both *tsked*.

"Say, what was the point of us fighting just then?" Wang Guangning felt laden with grief.

"I don't know." Zhang Lingyi stared up at the sky, "I thought that if you were attractive, you wouldn't get played by a girl. Looks like it's all the same."

Standing up, he dusted off his back and prepared to leave.

"Hey, you're going just like this?" Wang Guangning stopped him.

"What, you want to go for another round?" After seeing Yu Haining's true colours, Zhang Lingyi's fervour for her had completely turned into negative feelings. He didn't believe that Wang Guangning would continue regarding Yu Haining passionately.

Wang Guangning pursed his lips. Just this afternoon, he resented Zhang Lingyi until his teeth hurt, thinking that he must conclude the rivalry between them until the appearance of Yu Haining. Yet, the only feeling left in his heart now was sympathy for his fellow sufferer as he gazed at the black eye he had given Zhang Lingyi. Wang Guangning thought that the two of them were really quite foolish, and a bitter pain emerged in his heart as he sighed in sorrow.

"You don't want to get revenge on society?"

"Of course I do." Zhang Lingyi shrugged, "I'll go to the supermarket and buy a watermelon knife, then first chop up my roommate. If I don't get arrested by tomorrow, I'll cut down my classmates...*en*, and also cut down Yu Haining."

"Tch." Wang Guangning laughed.

"What about you? How are you going to get revenge on society?" Zhang Lingyi stared at Wang Guangning.

“Me?” Wang Guangning lowered his head in thought. Suddenly, his eyes glittered and he excitedly raised his head, “What do you think of engaging in homosexual practices?”

Zhang Lingyi couldn’t help choking, black lines appearing on his face¹, “Are you sure you’re getting revenge on society and not getting revenge on yourself?”

[1] refers to something like this: (|||)

“You don’t understand,” Wang Guangning squinted his eyes in disdain as he ran his fingers through his hair. Adopting an elegant air, he said, “If a handsome man like myself who is popular with countless girls becomes gay, then wouldn’t it definitely cause many girls to get heartbroken? Being able to hurt them, yet not having to take responsibility, isn’t this the way to retaliate against society?”

“Ah, it seems to be so.” Zhang Lingyi touched his chin and considered the feasibility of this method. The more he thought about it, the more he believed that this was truly feasible. Women were so realistic, even the girl he had carefully selected, Yu Haining was actually such a woman. It seemed that becoming gay was better than having to take care of a woman.

Zhang Lingyi felt that a person’s life on earth was indeed as lonesome as snow, yet in heart he couldn’t help but worry, “What if people take it seriously? Wouldn’t we be despised?”

Wang Guangning waved his hand in a careless manner, “Whether other people take it as the truth, how does that harm the girls? *Laozi* will graduate in a year, I’ll only need to be gay until then. As soon as I step out of the school, this matter will be as good as forgotten.”

Zhang Lingyi’s heartbeat pounded incessantly as a result of his words. He thought of the scene where all the girls would be heartbroken after knowing he was gay, especially Yu Haining who after fooling him, finds out that he actually liked guys. She would definitely feel like she had been taken advantage of and be infuriated to death.

Such a scenario would be really moving!

His brain had already been muddled due to his anger, and he ignored whether this method was really going to be feasible. All he was thinking of was ruthlessly counterattacking against her and gaining back his face in front of Yu Haining.

“Good idea, how will we do it?” Zhang Lingyi rubbed his hands together in a vulgar manner.

“Hey, this was an idea I thought out. You’re not allowed to snatch it,” Wang Guangning warned.

“Did you apply a patent for it?” Zhang Lingyi shamelessly gazed towards the sky, pretending not to have heard anything.

“Shit, are you asking for another beating?” Wang Guangning stood up and rolled up his sleeves, preparing to take action.

“Wait.”

At the moment when Wang Guangning was on the verge of rushing in to fight, Zhang Lingyi’s voice sounded out, stopping him.

“What.” Wang Guangning was impatient. Zhang Lingyi definitely was his enemy in life, he was even trying to fight over a matter such as being gay. No matter what Zhang Lingyi said, he would beat him until he couldn’t be sympathised with.

“I suddenly realised that the matter of being gay is not a one man thing.” Zhang Lingyi’s expression was quite mysterious, “Wang Guangning, haven’t you thought about who you will find to be gay with you?”

Wang Guangning narrowed his eyes, “You’re not thinking of acting as my partner, are you? In your dreams, *laozi* has many brothers. I don’t need you.”

“Don’t say that,” Zhang Lingyi appeared as if he still had other cards up his sleeves, “So what if you have other brothers? I don’t believe that someone

will willingly want to pretend to be gay with you. You think that just because you've been hurt by a girl, other people won't chase after them? Besides, no matter what you say, you're still our university's number two *xiao cao*..."

"Fuck, *laozi* is number one!"

Zhang Lingyi glanced at him, then pretending not to have heard, continued, "With your level of handsomeness, if you just randomly find a man who isn't attractive to act as your partner, you might even be suspected of having poor taste. In the worst case, people might even think you couldn't overtake Yu Haining and ended up giving up in despair."

Although Zhang Lingyi's voice wasn't loud, however each word struck Wang Guangning's heart deeply.

Wang Guangning was a person who loved to shamelessly show off his good looks, just thinking about his appearance made him feel proud. Imagining the scene of Sun Siyang and him walking down the street...it really was too tragic to look at!

He then pictured Yu Haining acting prettily and looking at him with pity, "Wang Guangning, I didn't think that after losing me, you'd fall to such a state. You've really disappointed me."

Intolerable!

While visualised various scenarios, he also examined Zhang Lingyi's face.

Although Zhang *xiao cao* had been beaten until his features had become disfigured, it could still be seen that he was a very handsome youth.

Wang Guangning wasn't willing but had to admit that in this university, Zhang Lingyi was the only attractive guy comparable to himself.

Yet, because of their relationship due to the rivalry which had existed for so long, he had no choice but to calmly accept working together with Zhang Lingyi.

Wang Guangning's heart was troubled.

“We have the same goal, don't we?” Zhang Lingyi threw down the last bait, “We're the same, both no wanting to give Yu Haining an easy life. We can start it together, and end it together. Also, if the two of us pretend to be a gay couple, Yu Haining would definitely think that we were both just working together to fool her before. Wouldn't this the best outcome?”

“Fine, I'll work together with you.” Wang Guangning finally gave up struggling and squinted at Zhang Lingyi, “Then, let's set an agreement!”

Thank you to everyone who followed this site and read this ^ – ^

For those asking about the schedule for ABG30D I'll update this one usually around a week or two, unless something unexpected happens or I'm just really busy and am unable to translate > . <

Hope you all enjoyed this chapter (´ • ~ • `)

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 003 [1]

003

“We’ll toss a coin to determine who the gong and shou will be”

part one



Today, in the coffee shop near F University’s library appeared an inconceivable scene. The two *xiao cao* who were often rumoured to be in disagreement and fighting over the sole position of king, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi, were unexpectedly sitting together discussing questions harmoniously, even though just two days prior they had both serenaded Yu Haining with songs at the evening party. *It must be because 2012 was quickly approaching...*

The part-time waitress working there pretended to play on her phone and secretly uploaded a picture of them with their heads leaning against each other onto Weibo and tagged F university’s official poster of the university’s forum.

“Ah ah ah ah ah ah ah~~~ I just saw Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi together! They seem so close, are they together? Was Yu Haining just cannon fodder? [starry eyes] @FXingRen”

The waitress’ post on Weibo was rapidly forwarded by F University’s official poster from the forums “FXingRen” to show everyone —

@FDaShuDong: Ah, am I going blind? Someone quickly tell me this was photoshopped~

@ZuiAiZhongXiao: Actually I already knew since ages ago that Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were a pair. Yu Haining was only used to shamelessly pull the wool over everyone's eyes about the matter of being gay.

@WeiWeiAnQianNianQuiDeLiDaRen: To think that Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi are gay, does the world even want peace?

@WoYaoHuiHuoXing: Was I wrong in the way I opened this? It doesn't make sense ! ! ! ! ! ! !

@NaBuDaoManJiDianShiBuGaiMing: Tired, don't think I'll love again~

@HongDiWangDao: I knew since early on that they had JQ¹ ! ! ! ! ! !
And were together!

[1] JQ = BL

Within a few short hours, the post was madly forwarded everywhere on Weibo and various versions of the story also emerged.

Including, version one: Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were actually childhood sweethearts who were deeply in love however it was allowed as their feelings were considered secular. They had to patiently and bitterly endure in silence and took the entrance exams to the same university. In order not to let their affections be known, they pretended to be enemies and both chased after Yu Haining to fool people.

Version two: When Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi first entered the university, they fell in love at first sight and felt a strong passion for each other. However, Wang Guangning later fell in love with Yu Haining and the two became enemies. Furious, Zhang Lingyi decided to snatch Yu Haining away but after they finished singing their songs for her on stage that day, the two realised that they were still deeply in love with each other. Once again, they became engulfed in passion for each other and were unable to let go.

Version three: Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were always in disagreement with each other so they often fought both openly and secretly until even the woman they chased was the same. However during the process of their competitions with each other, they gradually became attracted to the other and realised the truth that they were both gay.

Version four:

Version five:

Even though there were countless versions, the final version acknowledged unanimously was that there would definitely be another struggle. This must merely be the calm before the storm!

The supporters of these rumours were namely two kinds- one was males, and the other was females who were secretly in love with Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi. The guys believed that men fighting for a woman was common, and the two also had obvious bruises on their faces. However, the girls were simply unable to accept the fact that the two men they loved the most were actually in love with each other!

Life was already so difficult. Good men having boyfriends, this kind of thing shouldn't be played out in real life!

As a result of the enormous numbers of both populations, this version became the final mainstream version. During the period this was uploaded on Weibo like wildfire, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi who were the two involved parties were completely ignorant of the matter. Instead, they were both seriously studying something in the coffee shop.



How to be gay?

“Have you been gay before?” Wang Guangning touched his chin and asked earnestly.

The corner of Zhang Lingyi's lips curled up, "No, I haven't even done any prostitutes²."

[2] : for female, and for male sex workers/prostitutes.

"We're finished. I haven't been gay before either, what are we going to do?" Wang Guangning's eyebrows exuded a touch of distress

"He he he, you don't need to worry. I've already completely prepared for this." Zhang Lingyi smiled smugly and brought out two A4 sized sheets of paper which had words scribbled on it everywhere.

"What's this?" Wang Guangning accepted one of the sheets of paper passed to him from Zhang Lingyi and was immediately blinded by the title.

30 Things Couples Must Do Together

1. Wear matching clothes for couples and walk together on the streets.
2. Run, exercise and play sports together.
3. Compliment each other in front of others.
4. Take a picture together in a photo booth and set each other's face as the wallpaper for your phones.
5.
6.

"Awesome, right?" Zhang Lingyi's face had proud written all over it.

"Although I haven't been gay before, however gay couples should be about the same as male and female friendships. Anyway, it's all about dating so as long as we do everything on the list once, it should be fine."

Wang Guangning was speechless and had black lines over his head, "Where did you find this list?"

"I saw it on Weibo, the reposts were very high," said Zhang Lingyi. "Many girls commenting that it was very romantic. I guess that by going through it once, we'll definitely infuriate heaps of girls."

“Fine.” Although Wang Guangning had a feeling as if his balls were going to shatter, he couldn’t think of a better idea. Looking at Zhang Lingyi’s appearance as if he had many cards up his sleeves, Wang Guangning thought that since the other possessed an IQ that had received a scholarship, he would believe him for the time being. “Then we’ll follow this list. When do we start?”

Who do you think will be end up being the *gong* and the *shou*? ^^

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 003 [2]

003

“We’ll toss a coin to determine who the gong and shou will be”

part two



“Choosing an auspicious day is not as good as any ordinary day, let’s start tomorrow.” Zhang Lingyi rubbed his hand together, his voice had traces of excitement and eagerness, “I’ve thought about it. If we do one thing every day, then we can pretend to be gay for exactly thirty days.”

Wang Guangning thought it over, then nodded, “That works as well. Then we’ll do it for thirty days, I also don’t want to be a gay couple with you for too long.”

Zhang Lingyi rolled his eyes, “Don’t act out an appearance of being wronged, *ben shaoye*³ is also very respected and important, alright?”

[3] : means ‘this young master’, which is used in a quite arrogant manner by Zhang Lingyi here.

Seeing that the tomorrow would be the start of their cooperation for thirty days, Wang Guangning decided not to bother with him. “Then this’ll be all for today. We’ll meet here tomorrow morning at eight o’clock, then...*eh*, then start from the first thing listed!”

Wearing matching couple clothing, it should not be too difficult!

Wang Guangning thought about Zhang Lingyi and him walking down the street wearing matching couple clothing.

Although the other man's face was quite hateful, compared to other matters between couples, this wasn't that hard to accept. Even though they had decided to be gay, it must steadily progress step-by-step.

"Wait." As Wang Guangning stood up to leave, Zhang Lingyi hastily stopped him.

"Is there anything else?" Wang Guangning was impatient.

"We haven't decided who will be *gong*⁴ and who will be *shou*⁵ yet!" Zhang Lingyi's words shocked him.

[4] : *gong*, meaning the attacker or the *seme* in Japanese terms.

[5] : *shou*, meaning the receiver or the *uke* in Japanese terms.

"Fuck, what who will be *gong* or *shou*!" Wang Guangning was unable to understand Zhang Lingyi's train of thoughts. Although he wasn't really gay, he was somewhat familiar with such terms due to the modern culture on Weibo. "We're just acting, there's no need to be so serious!"

"That won't do." Zhang Lingyi's face was solemn and earnest. "Just acting still needs to be acted out properly. Otherwise, how can you fully immerse yourself in the play? How will you make the play seem more realistic?"

Wang Guangning didn't want to argue with him on such a childish matter and impatiently waved his hand. "Fine, fine. Then we'll say that I'm the *gong* and you're the *shou*."

"Why?" Zhang Lingyi immediately counterattacked, "*Ben shaoye* is so manly, of course it would be me that's the *gong*!"

"*Che*. I have a four pack, don't you know?" Wang Guangning raised his chin, wanting to borrow an imposing manner to secure his victory.

“I have a six-pack.” Zhang Lingyi scanned the surroundings, then seeing that the coffee shop had barely any people, quickly lifted his shirt and exposed the legendary six pack in a flash, “See, by deciding from the amount of abdominal muscles to determine who will be the *gong* or *shou*, you lose.”

Wang Guangning denied it, “Men rely on strength!”

“Then I’ll still definitely overwhelm you.” Zhang Lingyi raised his head high and thrust out his chest in a valiant manner.

The two youths weren’t willing to compromise, and it seemed that they were reaching an impasse.

Suddenly, Wang Guangning’s eyes flashed. “Since it’s like this, why don’t we toss a coin to decide it?”

Zhang Lingyi was shocked at Wang Guangning’s suggestion, then immediately seconded the motion, “Alright, we’ll settle it like that.”

Hence, in the afternoon at a corner of the coffee shop, the two youths stood serenely and with a dignified air. The sun’s rays shone on them obliquely as they took out a coin.

“We’re agreeing that whoever tosses a 1⁶ will be the *gong*, and whoever tosses the chrysanthemum will be the *shou*.” Wang Guangning warned once again.

[6] 1: the coin they are using is worth one yuan, so it has the number one on a side, then the picture of a chrysanthemum on the other.

“Yeah, yeah.”

“Okay, listen. 1...2...3...”

The two silver coins were thrown into the air following the command and the warm rays of the winter sun reflected a dazzling light. The tinkling sound of metal could also be heard echoing.

Afterwards, they each respectively dropped onto a large, slender hand then was covered with a palm.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi glanced at each other involuntarily, both faintly feeling a trace of tension. Throughout their three years of rivalry, the two had been unable to distinguish who was stronger. The confrontation this time about the matter of *gong* and *shou* could be said to be their first step to attaining victory.

Real men, must be the gong!

That was what they both thought.

In an unspoken tactic understanding, the two imagined the scene of overwhelming the other in their minds.

It really made one fascinated!

“Open it!” Zhang Lingyi’s serious voice carried a hint of excitement.

Wang Guangning nodded, and they slowly withdrew the hand that was covering the coin in their palms.

“Ahahaha!” Zhang Lingyi laughed, “*Ben shaoye* is the *gong*!”

Zhang Lingyi’s coin that was in his hand had a vertical and straight ‘1’ on it.

On the other hand, Wang Guangning’s coin clearly had a chrysanthemum that was in full bloom.

“*Xiao⁷ shou*, don’t feel hurt. Big brother will carefully dot on you!” Having achieved victory from the competition with Wang Guangning, Zhang Lingyi felt extremely proud and laughed loudly.

[7] : means little. In Chinese, using that to refer to someone is a show of affection, however here Zhang Lingyi uses it to tease Wang Guangning.

Wang Guangning's face was as black as a dirty rag. In previous competitions with Zhang Lingyi, he was able to maintain being evenly matched with the other. He didn't expect to surprisingly stumble when allocating who would be the *gong* and who would be the *shou*. Looking at Zhang Lingyi's smug face, he felt that this was really hard to swallow.

But the idea was mentioned by him, and real men must keep their promises!

Wang Guangning tried to endure, yet in the end was unable to tolerate it. Throwing the coin in his hand heavily onto the table, he strode away in a rage.

Behind him, Zhang Lingyi continued to add salt to the wound. "*Shou shou*, don't forget to arrive on time tomorrow!"

Most of you guessed it right, Wang Guangning is the *shou* ~

(T T) Next chapter will be their first 'date' as a 'couple'...

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 004 [1]

004

“Never mind, matching couple clothes for men don’t exist”

day one | wearing matching couple clothes on the streets

part one



The fine sunny weather today was quite rare in the south during the winter days. Even rarer was that the two xiao cao of F University who were as incompatible as fire and water were once again meeting together amiably.

“What kind of clothes are you wearing?” Wang GuangNing looked at Zhang Lingyi who was unexpectedly wearing formal dress that were usually only seen at job recruitments and with great effort, tried to control his own expression from cracking.

Zhang Lingyi leisurely shrugged his shoulders with an expression of helplessness. “Didn’t we agree to wear black clothes? These are the only black clothes I have which I had bought for the purpose of meeting a sponsor.”

That was true, as a chairman of the student association, Zhang Lingyi would frequently come into contact with sponsors, especially the elite!

“As a man, how can you not own any black clothes?” Wang Guangning spoke in an unforgiving tone. A male prostitute who didn’t even own any black clothes, how could he be worthy of being the gong? Wang Guangning really thought that he would die!

The corner of Zhang Lingyi's lips lifted, "Is there a rule that all men must have black clothes?"

As he spoke, he glanced over Wang Guangning's attire.

Simple jeans and a black windbreaker, it was quite handsome.

In his heart, Zhang Lingyi nodded in satisfaction. Although Wang Guangning was not very pleasing to the eye, but he had to admit that in F University, only Wang Guangning was comparable to him.

Sure enough, choosing to be gay with him was the correct choice.

Yet at this moment, the voice in Wang Guangning's heart was completely opposite to Zhang Lingyi's.

Heavens, how come Zhang Lingyi was quite normal when competing with him usually, but his level dropped so much when they started collaborating?

Just who would be so mentally deficient as to wear formal dress as a matching couple outfit?

Helpless, Wang Guangning pulled him towards the bus stop, talking as they walked, "Let's go. We might as well go and buy a set of decent matching couple outfits."

It wasn't the weekend today, so the stream of people on the pedestrian streets could be endured. However, the size of the matching couple outfits could really not be tolerated!

"Miss, why are they all one large, one small? Are there not anything in the same size?" As they visited the N number of store, Wang Guangning finally couldn't help but flip out.

Zhang Lingyi and his stature were quite similar, with both being tall and lean, but all the matching couple outfits at the market were only for a man and a woman. They were simply unable to meet the demands of them both at the same time.

On top of that, Zhang Lingyi was wearing formal dress, so there were many people casting them sidelong glances as they walked down the street. Walking with him, Wang Guangning only thought that his entire temperate was being implicated by Zhang Lingyi. He was incomparably ashamed and couldn't help but wish to find a pocket and hide him away.

“Ah, this is very normal~” Zhang Lingyi seemed to be quite open, indifferently waving his hand.

“This is evidently just discriminating against same-sex partners,” Wang Guangning groaned, thinking that he was being marginalised by this society.

He felt so aggrieved that he completely forgot that he were merely pretending to be gay.

“Forget it. Let's just go and buy two matching pairs of clothes,” said Zhang Lingyi.

“But!” Wang Guangning still felt wronged and pointed at a set of SpongeBob SquarePants matching couple outfit in small store by the roadside, “I want that set!”

Zhang Lingyi looked at the yellow and violent cartoon image, and suddenly was very glad that this store didn't provide matching couple outfits for men.

However, Wang Guangning was currently walking wildly, it was better not to provoke him...

“There's nothing that can be done, the size isn't suitable for us. Let's go and look over there!” Zhang Lingyi grabbed Wang Guangning's hand and pulled him towards the brand store opposite.

In the end, the two chose a checked shirt and a V-neck sweater each, the design quite suitable for their age. Wearing it made their youthfulness to rise, vigorous and energetic. It was as if the cold of the winter was driven away by more than half.

The shop assistant stared at them, eyes fixed.

Wang Guangning insisted that they must wear these clothes on their way back. Of course, the main reason was that he really didn't have the face to keep looking at Zhang Linyi wearing that formal wear while walking around.

So on their return, the two of them attracted attention the entire way back.

They originally both grew up as children who were often the focus of everything, and were quite used to the feeling of being stared at by onlookers.

Yet, the gazes on them today were almost three or four times the usual. Even the two seasoned people couldn't help finding it hard to endure.

While at the subway, Wang Guangning faintly heard two girls whispering to their side.

"Wow. These two people are so handsome!"

"Yes, yes! But why do they have the same clothes? Are they a restaurant's uniform?"

"Ah, that could be. But which restaurant has such handsome waiters? I must go there every day!"

Waiter?!

The veins on Wang Guangning's forehead bulged.

Your sister! Where did he look like a waiter?

Where have you seen such a handsome waiter?

How do these clothes look like a restaurant's uniform? This was obviously a matching couple outfit!

Matching. Couple. Outfit!

Wang Guangning's heart roared madly, but his face still maintained an expression of elegance. Then, leaning slightly towards Zhang Lingyi, he lowly said, "Quick! Take my hand!"

o()o I apologise for having not posted in so long, but I wasn't able to access anything because there had been problems with my laptop so I needed to get it fixed. Everything's alright now though, so I can continue posting again ^ - ^

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 004 [2]

004

“Never mind, matching couple clothes for men don’t exist”

day one | wearing matching couple clothes on the streets

part two



Zhang Lingyi’s one hand was still carrying the bag of their clothes. Hearing what he said, his face frowned, “No, then I’ll have no hand to pull the strap handle.”

“Are you going to die if you don’t hold the strap handle?” Wang Guangning’s voice lowered and he tugged at Zhang Lingyi’s hand, pulling it stiffly away from the strap handle and then aggressively held it.

“Hey...you...”

Just as Zhang Lingyi was going to react violently, Wang Guangning immediately gave him a supercilious look full of a hint, “I’m holding a pole, if you can’t stand steadily, then clench my hand tightly. I’ll hold onto you.”

Then he lowered his voice even more, “Those girls are watching. Sweet and happy, take notice, sweet and happy!”

Only then did Zhang Lingyi remember their current status of lovers, and he promptly directed a tender gaze at Wang Guangning, his hand holding Wang Guangning’s tightly.

“Shit, don’t grasp my hand so tightly!” said Wang Guangning with a pinched expression.

“No, I can’t bear to leave you.” Zhang Lingyi spoke, sickeningly sweet.

Consequently, a sweet and romantic scene of holding hands at the subway became arm-wrestling.

Of course, to others it still seemed to be harmonious and romantic.

Sure enough, the faces of the girls who were excitedly discussing before changed silently.

“Ah, look. They’re holding hands, am I seeing wrong?”

“You’re right, they’re really holding hands!” The voice shook.

“Men holding hands and what not, how disgusting. Do you think they are *that~*”

“Shhh, be more quiet~”

“So sad...why do all the good men have boyfriends?”

.....

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi left the underground subway in satisfaction.

That’s right, must hear the sound of the girls’ heart breaking.

The two of them circled around the F University campus in their matching couple outfit. After receiving countless astonished glances and broken glasses, they finally parted to return to their own dormitories, perfectly contented.

Wang Guangning had only just entered the dormitory when the door opened and his roommate Sun Siyang threw himself at him, with an expression of making a fuss about nothing.

“Guangning, I just saw a hot thread on F Xing Ren forum that said you and Zhang Lingyi were wearing the same clothes and that you bitterly met each other on accident. Many people saw you wearing the same clothes and appear simultaneously at the same place.”

Fuck, how come it seemed to be different to what he had predicted?

Indignant, Wang Guangning went straight to his computer and started it up, opening the F Xing Ren forum.

Sure enough, the hot topic for today was the thread Unprecedented in history, two xiao cao finally wearing the same outfit .

The post used an extremely exaggerated tone to describe every aspect of how Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi appeared on campus wearing the exact same clothes, receiving many people’s attention.

The two people who were F University’s number one candidate for the intense competition of most handsome guy normally didn’t meet, yet met today in the most bitter style. Meeting once, they met again and again, meeting each other more than bumper cars.

Underneath the post, there were even many pictures supplied by different users of the two wearing the same clothes and meeting at different corners of the campus. There were even fierce debates of who was the most handsome in the end.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi both had their own fans at school, so normally when there was nothing to talk about, they would take the topic of who was the number one handsome guy and fight with each other. However, since both of them had their own distinguishing characteristic, it was difficult to separate who was superior.

The situation today of them both wearing the same clothes was extremely rare, and it could be considered truly allowing the two of them to be compared online at the same level. Therefore, it was awfully chaotic on the forum.

However, even though the opinions of both sides conflicted, their fundamental ways of speech was relatively similar. It was all, ‘our family¹ wears the clothes like he’s a prince, and yours wears them like he’s no different than a waiter at the dining hall!’

[1] : used by Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi’s fans to refer to them in a more intimate manner.

The more Wang Guangning read, the more black his face became.

The little fatty Sun Siyang thought that he was angry because of the situation of having worn the same clothes in public and hurried to console him, “Guangning, don’t take offense. I think you wearing these clothes look much better than Zhang Lingyi.”

Wang Guangning hmphed, ignoring him then registered a sock-puppet² for himself and prepared to go into battle.

[2] : A sock-puppet is an online identity used for purposes of deception.

There was nothing else he could do. After all, as a campus celebrity, his name has long been stripped of the light.

“Don’t you all think, that this is a set of matching couple outfit?” he posted using his sock-puppet. But the “cute matching couple outfit” was short-lived, quickly covered and drowned by a debate of who was F University’s most handsome guy.

“Fuck!” Wang Guangning suddenly hit the table and his phone which was on the table just happened to flash.

Opening it, Wang Guangning realised it was a message from Zhang Linyi.

Such a tragedy! Have you seen the forum?

Wang Guangning replied: **I saw it already.**

I feel so laden with grief. I'll go and wash early then sleep. Don't arrive late tomorrow.

Reading the message, Wang Guangning abruptly wondered whether choosing to be gay with Zhang Lingyi was really the correct decision.

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 005

005

“Gay couples ‘exercising’ together will easily be wounded”

day two | running together, exercising and playing basketball



Today, the weather was once again dry and pleasant.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi met amiably at the inner track¹ wearing sportswear.

[1] Referring to the inner track of the running track in one of the university fields.

“Do you really think that this silly idea of running around the track will reflect the essence of being gay?” Wang Guangning expressed his extreme scepticism.

“Otherwise what?” Zhang Lingyi winked, “Do you want to hold hands while running?”

Wang Guangning thought about it, twisting his hands seriously, “We should just do it this way.”

Consequently, in the inner track there once again appeared the historic scene. The two *xiao cao* Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were jogging simultaneously, and even seemed to be especially close.

Unfortunately, there weren't many people in the morning. Occasionally, there would a few still half-asleep people who passed through who all thought their eyesight was blurred. They immediately reached up and rubbed their eyes, but by the time they finished Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi had already finished running.

The inner track was always the first choice for people on the campus to go to for jogging. Usually it took half an hour for the male students to finish running around it. Hence, the two *xiao cao* felt an emptiness in their balls during the process of running along the endless track, so they began chatting.

Gracefully sweeping a glance at Wang Guangning, Zhang Lingyi said, "Say, with your small arms and calves, will you even be able to finish running around the track?"

This was a provocation, a naked provocation.

Wang Guangning cut him a sharp glance, "Get lost! *Laozi* has a four-pack!"

"Ah, only four?" In a careless manner, Zhang Lingyi lifted his shirt and fanned it a few times, "I have a six-pack. If abdominal muscles could be divided, I would share one with you. That way, you can once again be on equal footing with me."

Speaking of this, Zhang Lingyi was still annoyed. He and Wang Guangning had competed for so long, yet they always had difficulty separating who was superior. If he only he had known earlier to compare with Wang Guangning the amount of abdominal muscles. That way, he would've been able to smile arrogantly at F University at an earlier time. It was a pity that it was only now that he found out he had more abdominal muscles than Wang Guangning, and it was already too late.

Wang Guangning was firmly provoked by Zhang Lingyi, his two eyes erupting in flames of anger, "What are abdominal muscles? Can they be eaten? Men should rely on strength to speak!"

“Hey, *shou shou*, don’t be so angry². Being a *shou*, having two less abdominal muscles than the *gong* is reasonable.” Zhang Lingyi had discovered in the last two days that as long as he mentioned *shou* and *gong*, then he could basically piss off Wang Guangning.

[2] : means to fly into a rage out of humiliation; to be ashamed into anger.

Every time he saw his greatest enemy of the last three years exploding in this manner, Zhang Lingyi felt that life was truly beautiful.

“Hmph! Then we might as well as see how can complete running the inner track first. If you lose, you must give the position of *gong* to me!” Panting with rage, Wang Guangning shouted, “One, two, three...”

As soon as he finished, he dashed out like an arrow.

“Fuck! How can you just decide by yourself.” Zhang Lingyi was caught off guard by Wang Guangning’s attack, but he began running without delay.

Their legs were both generally long, and could be considered half-athletes so there was not much to choose between the two. However, Zhang Lingyi had the advantage since he was a member of the track and field team compared to Wang Guangning who was in the basketball team.

But he didn’t intend to surpass Wang Guangning all at once since it was a competition, and it was only natural that being evenly matched was more interesting.

So for the entire journey, he deliberately followed next to Wang Guangning for a few steps, ran ahead for a short while, then dropped back again to watch Wang Guangning’s appearance of holding his breath and working hard to be the first. His mood was really too great!

“*Shou shou*, since the Heavens have allowed you to be tossed to the chrysanthemum³, then it must be their mysterious and inexorable Will. You should just recognise it, don’t fight with the Heavens~”

[3] Slang for anus in Chinese > . <

“Hmph~” Wang Guangning couldn’t be bothered to look at him.

“Relax, *shou shou*. I may be your gay partner but I have morals, so I won’t speak about the subject of you being the *shou* to anyone!” Zhang Lingyi said righteously, in an imposing manner.

Unable to stifle the fire which had been boiling for over half a day already, Wang Guangning replied, “Don’t worry, if you lose later then I will definitely send the information about you being the *shou* to F Xing Ren and let you experience being popular.”

In the middle of talking, the finishing line was already present.

In order to achieve the beautiful dream of becoming a genuine gong, Wang Guangning inhaled deeply and prepared the final dash.

Shit, unwittingly they had already ran the entire track. If he wasn’t careful, then he really would let Wang Guangning win.

Watching as Wang Guangning ran ahead with every last ounce of his strength, Zhang Lingyi hurriedly followed to overtake him.

There was still 50 meters...30 meters...10 meters...

The door of victory was right ahead, and Wang Guangning could practically anticipate the scene of himself laughing up at the sky with Zhang Lingyi beneath him. Right at this moment, the excessively excited Wang Guangning’s left leg accidentally tripped over his right.

He fell face forward onto the ground with a *baji*⁴.

[4] : onomatopoeia for the squishing sound as Wang Guangning fell.

“Ah, ah, ah ——” Zhang Lingyi who had been following precisely behind him was caught unprepared by the sudden event. Although he tried to

stabilise himself, he still stumbled upon Wang Guangning inevitably and fell bitterly onto Wang Guangning's body head-on.

"Ah ——" An earth-shattering cry of pain escaped Wang Guangning.

Zhang Lingyi struggled to roll over to one side, withholding his own pain as he sat up to go and support Wang Guangning who already had a distorted expression.

"What happened?" Zhang Lingyi asked.

"Face...face hurts..." Wang Guangning's voice as he spoke trembled slightly, his two hands tightly covering his face.

"Let me have a look," Zhang Lingyi reached out to take off Wang Guangning's hands on his face. He and Wang Guangning were both people who were proud of their appearance, so he knew clearly that to Wang Guangning, the wound on his face was considered to be more serious than a grave injury. His heart also felt a bit worried.

Yet, Wang Guangning's hands covered his face tightly, unwilling to show anything.

"At this time, can you not consider your image as if it's a life and death matter?" Zhang Lingyi became angry, unable to deal with the injured Wang Guangning. Instead, he directly broke apart Wang Guangning's stubborn hands.

And then...

"Pft~" Zhang Lingyi couldn't help but laugh but was hastily stopped by Wang Guangning's eyes which held a hidden bitterness.

"This...we should go to the doctor's office to examine." Zhang Lingyi restrained himself so that his voice wouldn't come out shaking.

Wang Guangning's entire face was fine, it was just that the bridge of his nose was bruised from the fall and there was blood from the grazes.

His nose was especially straight so the damage was particularly obvious when injured, making it seem quite funny.

Zhang Lingyi wanted to laugh again, but seeing Wang Guangning's stormy expression, he restrained himself. "Come on, let's go to the doctor to get it dealt with."

He pulled Wang Guangning, but the other sat there and still didn't move.

"What's wrong?"

Pressing his lips into a flat line, he spoke unwillingly, "My foot is also sprained."

Zhang Lingyi coughed. When he saw Wang Guangning covering his face before, he had thought that everywhere else was fine. *He really valued his appearance and not his life!*

"I admit defeat." As he spoke, Zhang Lingyi crouched down with his back facing Wang Guangning, "Forget it, I'll endure a loss so get on!"

Wang Guangning stared at Zhang Lingyi's wide back. To speak the truth, he wasn't willing to show any weaknesses in front of Zhang Lingyi, but the circumstances were stronger than people and there was nothing he could do about the injury to his foot.

Considering it over and over again, he climbed onto Zhang Lingyi's back unwillingly.

"Fuck, you're so heavy!" Zhang Lingyi struggled to stand up.

"Nonsense. *Laozi* is the same height as you, and has a four-pack so of course I'm heavy." Wang Guangning's lips curled up. Zhang Lingyi knew that he was heavy, yet tried to flaunt being the hero, so he deserved it.

"How is it? Do you regret it now?"

"Why should I regret anything?" Zhang Lingyi replied in a low voice, "What's more, I'm your *gong*, so this is my duty."

“You still dare to speak,” Wang Guangning pressed onto Zhang Lingyi’s shoulder, then leaned his head forward and knocked the back of Zhang Lingyi’s head, the collision producing a crisp noise.

“Ah, fuck~ You *gong* murderer!” Pained, Zhang Lingyi continued to shout. He didn’t have any other hands to cover up the area where he was hit, so he could only shake his head, looking especially like he was a dog flinging his head after having fallen in water.

Watching Zhang Lingyi yelling, his gloomy mood finally felt a bit better.



At the doctor’s office.

The bridge of Wang Guangning’s nose had a bandage stuck across it, and he listened to the doctor jabbering on and on, admonishing them while pressing his foot. “Ah, youngsters these days, so rude and impetuous. You don’t understand how to take care of your own health at all. Wait until you’re old, then you’ll know how it feels to regret...”

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi listened until sweat coated their foreheads, yet they didn’t dare to speak out and retort. The doctor was an authority of F University’s gossip, if anyone didn’t fear death and challenged his power, then their end was certain to be bitter.

Finally, Wang Guangning’s foot was corrected and the doctor patted his hand, “Alright, don’t do any more exercise for the next week.”

Finished speaking, he glanced at Zhang Lingyi who had been a spectator and his brows immediately furrowed, “Your hand is also injured, yet you didn’t say anything.”

As he spoke, he grasped Zhang Lingyi’s right hand and it was only now that Wang Guangning realised Zhang Lingyi’s wrist had also been grazed, the entire area was bruised an extremely frightening green and purple.

It turned out that Zhang Lingyi was also injured, yet did not say a single word and carried him on his back the entire way to this office.

Wang Guangning's chest felt somewhat upset and he asked awkwardly, "You were also injured, but why didn't you say anything?"

Zhang Lingyi indifferently shook his hands, "Aiya, I didn't know either. It must be because I'm more heroic and powerful so I didn't feel any pain..." Then he hissed, "Ah, doctor, be more gentle. This is living flesh..."

"Didn't you say it wasn't painful?" The doctor continued to callously press the cotton ball dabbed in *Hong Yao Shui*⁵ on Zhang Lingyi's wrist. "Does it hurt now? You brat, you won't learn if you don't feel any pain."

[5] : a type of medicine in liquid form/lotion

"Hurt hurts hurts, it hurts to death. Ah, doctor, please be lenient!" Zhang Lingyi's complexion turned pale and he repeatedly begged for mercy.

Upon seeing this, Wang Guangning secretly laughed.



As they walked out of the doctor's office, Zhang Lingyi watched Wang Guangning limping slightly so he said, "It seems that our plans to exercise and play basketball will have to be cancelled."

Wang Guangning also thought that what happened today was beyond belief, and replied grudgingly, "Let's forget about these two days...I want to and rest for a while."

In reality, he was wondering whether or not to continue this completely lacking in objective act of being gay with Zhang Lingyi.

"Then, alright." Zhang Lingyi shrugged his shoulders indifferently.

My exams have finally finished, so here is the next chapter ~

Thank you to everyone who wished me good luck, and I hope you enjoyed this new update > . <

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 006

006

“Feed each other food? What happened to moral principles?”

day three | praising each other in front of others



The weather today was quite gloomy, the whistling wind made it especially cold.

Yet, colder than the weather was Zhang Lingyi's heart.

This morning, he was currently wrapped warmly in a quilt and seriously pondering how to low-key praise Wang Guangning in an obvious manner in front of others.

To be honest, asking him to obliterate Wang Guangning was easy. In the past, they had both indirectly insulted each other in different situations countless times, however to praise each other...was truly difficult!

Praise him as being handsome? Too tacky. Besides, he wasn't even that handsome!

Praise him as talented? He couldn't say it, how could he admit in front of an audience that Wang Guangning was more talented than him?

Praise his temperament? Thinking about how Wang Guangning always said 'laozi', 'fuck', and 'your sister', he would be blind to do it!

He thought of numerous plans, but it was too hard to decide.

At the time, his phone lit up. Wang Guangning had sent a text message.

Zhang Lingyi, I don't think we should continue to pretend to be gay. It's too unreliable.

“Fuck, how can this be!” Zhang Lingyi’s entire person had just entered the state of Sparta, so how they just stop? He immediately dialled back on the phone.

“Hey, what do you mean? Why shouldn't we continue being gay?” Zhang Lingyi shouted out and asked.

“Just what I mean in that message. I think our decision was too hasty, it's too unreliable, really!” Wang Guangning said.

Zhang Lingyi was going to continue to question, when Wang Guangning said, “Don't say anything else. I need to go to the student union for a while.”

Then he simply hung up the call.

Called again, but no one answered.

The more he thought about it, the more depressed Zhang Lingyi became. He felt as if he had been unilaterally abandoned by the other. How could this be? He was F University's number one most handsome guy, so how could he be abandoned again and again?

Being rejected by Yu Haining didn't matter anymore. But Wang Guangning this big master, how could he just ignore his feelings!

Hence, Zhang Lingyi quickly got up and wore clean clothes then valiantly walked out, heading straight to the student union in a spirited manner.

Since his third year, Wang Guangning had dropped his seat as the president and now held the title of an advisor. If the student union had any questions regarding their activities, then they would seek his advice.

Now that it was the end of term, the student union would also start preparing for the upcoming large-scale events for the next semester. As a result, they would inevitably need advice from Wang Guangning.

For example, this time the student union were worrying about next year's campus singing contest. Should they continue following the audition system, or change it into a student recommendation voting system?

Wang Guangning sat in the office dedicated to the student union in the building of the student activity center, carefully listening to the president of the student union explaining the pros and cons of the two different systems.

The bandage from before was still on his nose, prompting the other students from the student union to peek at it occasionally. They seemed to want to ask, yet were too afraid to.

"I think..." Wang Guangning's emotions were brewing inside, he was currently wondering how to sound professional and authoritative once he spoke.

Then the office door was pushed open with a 'bang' and Zhang Lingyi appeared majestically at the entrance.

"Ah...did you walk into the wrong place brother Zhang? The student association office is next door." The president swallowed and said. He couldn't be blamed for having no backbone, since Zhang Lingyi's gaze was too murderous.

Zhang Lingyi directedly ignored the president and faced Wang Guangning, lifted his chin and said, "You, come out. We need to talk."

Wang Guangning grudgingly rolled his eyes then said to the president, "I need to go out for a moment, you guys continue."

"How can you do that," Zhang Lingyi accused strongly, "Do you think being gay is like going to a market to buy food? If you want to be gay then you'll be gay and if you don't want to be gay, you won't be gay?"

Wang Guangning pursed his lips, “But ever since you and I started pretending to be gay, we’ve been particularly unlucky. I think our birthdate characters¹ are unsuited, having less contact would be wonderful.”

[1] : this refers to the birthdate characters used in fortune-telling

Zhang Lingyi shot him a supercilious look, “Our characters don’t suit each other, is this something you only found out today? Isn’t it because our characters were unsuitable that we both ended up liking Yu Haining at the same time? How did we decide to take such a step? Wang Guangning, if you regret it then regret directly. Don’t make up so many excuses.”

Although Wang Guangning this person was an idiot and had the Prince disease², there was one thing that was good about him. It was that men couldn’t tolerate other people saying that they didn’t keep their word and such.

[2] : just think of it as being similar to the Princess Syndrome.

Being provoked like this by Zhang Lingyi, his anger once again rose and immediately said, “Who regrets anything? Isn’t it just pretending to be gay? Since you’re not afraid, then we’ll just continue. What day is it today?”

Seeing that the psychological manipulation was taking effect, Zhang Lingyi’s gloomy heart felt better and he firmly said, “Today, we must praise each other in front of others.”

Wang Guangning’s lips twitched, “That’s perfect, you go in front of the student union and praise me.”

The two walked back into the student union office one after the other. The president and several other members of the student union were waiting for Wang Guangning.

There was also a *meizi*³ who had been in pursuit of Wang Guangning for a long time, so when she saw him come in, her expression was especially eager.

[3] : (dialect) means younger sister, but is just referring to a younger female student.

The president glanced at Zhang Lingyi who was standing behind Wang Guangning and was puzzled, “Senior brother, does brother Zhang still have something else he needs?”

Wang Guangning shrugged, “Nothing, he’s just here to listen. He has also engaged in many activities in the student association so he can give us some suggestions.”

The jaws of the president and several of the other members dropped with a ‘kaka’ sound.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi could actually have a harmonious coexistence today? And even wanted to contribute to the student union at the same time?

Was this the end of the world?

Wang Guangning was too lazy to pay attention to those people whose hearts were in tumult and only cleared his throat to say, “I have considered the two options you mentioned just now, and I believe that following the original system of selection through auditions is better. The campus singing contest has always been the signature of our F University because there are many contestants and it can mobilise the enthusiasm of everyone. There are so many people who watch the audition each year not only because of talent, but many also come to watch the handsome or beautiful contestants. If we change to a voting system, then the number of contestants may be greatly reduced but many people will easily slip through as well...”

“Guangning said it very well!” Zhang Linyi reiterated at the side, “Guangning planned many large-scale activities, so he is clear which method is the most effective. I think that we should listen to him regarding this matter.”

The president and the other members who were on the sidelines shuddered.

Ah, Heavens! In the end what's happening today?

Why would Zhang Lingyi agree with Wang Guangning's point of view?

Obviously these two people would fight until the heavens fainted and the earth darkened over matters such as who ate McDonald's or KFC, so why was there such a harmonious and friendly scene?

Sweating coldly in his heart, the president abruptly pulled out a dry smile, "Yes, I would like to thank the advice of two senior brothers. We will definitely carefully consider it."

Wang Guangning nodded with satisfaction and prepared to leave with Zhang Lingyi.

That member who liked Wang Guangning shamelessly shouted to him, "Senior brother Guangning~"

"Yes?" Wang Guangning glanced back. This little member had chased him for a long time, and even though he didn't reciprocate her feelings, he always maintained a lukewarm relationship with her. This was because as a handsome guy, the basic elegance needed to be maintained, and he didn't have the heart to put himself in an awkward situation.

However, the Wang Guangning of today was no longer the elegant and graceful Wang Guangning of before.

The Wang Guangning of today had already been hurt by a woman and was now a Wang Guangning who was determined to retaliate against society.

The little member blushed and asked Wang Guangning whether there was time to eat together tonight or not.

Wang Guangning decisively pulled Zhang Linyi's hand then smiled and said, "I'm sorry, I'm planning to eat with Lingyi tonight."

Then the two *xiao cao* of F University grasped each other's hand and stared lovingly at each other before exiting out of the student union office, leaving behind the president and other members who had turned to stone.

“Dear colleagues, did you all just see the same thing I did?” The president took the lead in recovering first and calmly asked the other people.

A male student with glasses pushed his framed and said, “If the president is referring to senior brother Guangning walking away to eat holding hands with Zhang Lingyi, then we saw the same thing.”

The small member who had been rejected by Wang Guangning suddenly sobbed, “President, am I really...really that annoying? Why was...senior brother Guangning willing to eat with Zhang Lingyi...but not with me?”

The president stared sympathetically at the little member, but couldn't think of anything comforting to say to her.

Regardless of how windy and messy the student union had become, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi really did ‘sweetly’ walk together to the cafeteria.

In G city, F University's cafeteria food was quite famous. The level of the unpalatable food in comparison to all other universities and colleges was ranked second only to some famous art institute. Different to the food at the art institute which was simply too unpalatable, the food at F University was more unpredictable and unconstrained.

It has been reportedly said that the master chef of the cafeteria was the *n*th disciple of a dark cuisine group, whose representative dishes have swept the network of leeks, sautéed mooncake, dried and roasted oranges and the like. They caused many F University students to become infatuated, for three days they didn't know the taste of meat.

In G city, there circulated a saying: life is just the cafeteria in F University, you never knew what dish you would have as your next meal. There were even many students from other universities who came just to be surprised by the taste of the food.

However, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingui's luck wasn't bad today, and unexpectedly met with one of the master chef's rare moments. They

received a few good side dishes and there was even a clear bowl of corn soup and pork chops.

“In truth, I was only trying to deliberately hurt that junior sister for a bit. We don’t need to really eat together.” Wang Guangning speechlessly stared at Zhang Lingyi who was eating the meat with relish.

“Oh, if we’re going to do a play, then we need to finish it properly. Besides, we were both going to eat anyway.” Zhang Lingyi said while eating, then smiled mysteriously at Wang Guangning, “Also, there’s one thing I’ve wanted to do for a long time.”

Wang Guangning felt as if something bad was going to happen. “What is it?”

“Do you know what I hate seeing the most when eating in the cafeteria?” Zhang Lingyi narrowed his eyes, his voice resonating, “It’s when couples display their affection in public by feeding each other. Today is a good opportunity, how can we not take the chance to revenge against society?”

Wang Guangning’s lips twitched, “Don’t tell me you want to...”

“Correct!” Zhang Lingyi picked up a piece of sweet and sour pork then directly placed it in Wang Guangning’s mouth, “I want to feed you.”

A principle like couples mutually feeding each other food, how could he let Zhang Lingyi do alone?

After being stunned initially, Wang Guangning quickly recovered and swallowed the sweet and sour pork. Not willing to be outdone, he scooped up a spoonful of the corn soup and lifted it to Zhang Lingyi’s mouth, “Come, I’ll feed you soup.”

Seeing Wang Guangning being so frank, Zhang Lingyi boldly drank the corn soup. Then the two people began trying to outdo one another in a ‘you feed me, then I’ll feed you’ manner.

At this point of time, there were quite a lot of people in the cafeteria eating. The two of them were both influential figures, such marvellous behaviour quickly attracted many onlookers.

Fuck, was our way of ordering food incorrect?

Couples feeding each other food was originally a matter which drew much hostility. Two men feeding each other was an even more impressive and spectacular sight. The two people feeding each other food were also the pair of legendary enemies!

However, although they were feeding each other, the expression in their eyes were so chilling. The actions of their hands were more like a competition, not sweet at all.

Could it be that this was some kind of new duel?

People were shocked, but were too embarrassed to ask them, so they whispered to one another and quietly took out their phones, aiming the camera at the two.

Through their intense and fierce method of feeding each other, Wang Guangning and Zhang lingyi quickly managed to finish the food in front of them.

Due to eating too fast, they needed support so ended up having to help each other out of the cafeteria.

“Say, why do couples like feeding each other food so much?” Zhang Lingyi was very puzzled, “It’s not comfortable at all.”

Wang Guangning himself didn’t feel very well, so he didn’t say a word and just waved his hand before leaving.

“Ah! Don’t forgot to meet on time tomorrow!” Zhang Lingyi shouted behind him.



That night, a new highly popular post appeared on F Xing Ren, Two *xiao cao* feeding each other in the cafeteria – a new way of duelling .

Posted underneath were photos of the two feeding each other taken secretly. The angle of the photos were very good and from their side profile, the expression in the two people's eyes could be seen. To the crowd who didn't know the truth, they only saw the murderous expression in the pair's eyes, despite the fact that they were feeding each other food.

Σ(O_O) Zhang Lingyi, you're so sly (▽)/

Teaser for the next chapter:

ZLY: *opens his phone*

WGN: *looks at the background* ()

WGN : ...Who is this girl?

ZLY: (;) Ah...

WGN: ...

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 007

007

“Is it really reasonable to use the face of your sworn enemy as your phone’s wallpaper?”

day four | taking a picture together and using each other’s photo as the phone’s wallpaper



Wang Guangning had always found it difficult to understand the matter of couple’s using each other’s picture as their phone’s wallpaper.

In the past two decades of his life, there have been many girls who had tried to set the wallpaper of his mobile phone with a picture of themselves.

However, they were all refused by him — his background belonged to SpongeBob SquarePants!

Of course, the reason why he didn’t use other pictures as his wallpaper — was simply because he felt other people looked too ugly!

But since Zhang Lingyi’s picture would be the one used for his wallpaper this time, Wang Guangning considered Zhang Lingyi’s enigmatic features and thought that his face suited their objective. Although, he couldn’t help but feel Zhang Lingyi’s face was slightly dull and infuriating.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi both classes the entire day. Luckily, taking pictures wouldn’t take much time and the two met on the lower level of the experimental laboratory buildings.

“Come, let *xiao gong* give you a handsome picture unequalled in style.” Zhang Lingyi grabbed Wang Guangning’s phone, eager for action as he slid past the lock. Shockingly, the wallpaper was a yellow and violent SpongeBob SquarePants.

“.....” Zhang Lingyi’s eyes revealed a little contempt, “Shou shou, I’ve discovered that your heart is actually quite childish.”

“You’re childish!” Wang Guangning found other people making fun of the fact that he liked SpongeBob SquarePants most annoying, so he took Zhang Lingyi’s phone and said, “Then let me see what your wallpaper is?”

He was so narcissistic, it was eighty percent likely that his phone wallpaper was his own picture.

Unexpectedly, Zhang Lingyi’s wallpaper was a photo of a girl with a sweet appearance.

The girl’s eyes were very big, and it could be seen that they were tilted up and her lashes were very dark. Her smile was very pleasant and carried a touch of bashfulness, and she seemed quite familiar.

“Ah, I thought you only liked Yu Haining, turns out there’s a reserve ~”, Wang Guangning’s tone was slightly sour and he felt depressed staring at the girl’s picture, “Since you already like other girls, why did you have to deliberately try to grab Yu Haining from me!”

“Hey, Zihui secretly replaced my wallpaper again!” Zhang Lingyi felt that Wang Guangning’s tone was wrong so he looked up, only to see a familiar little beauty in his own phone. He tried to explain hastily, “Oh, Zihui was playing with my phone is class just then, so she certainly changed it.”

“Luo Zihui?” It was only then that Wang Guangning remembered that the girl in the photo was a well-known fresh and pure beauty from the Human Resources Department. They were a neglected branch at F University, so students were basically allocated there with a secondary ambition. Beautiful women were also in complete shortage, and a fresh and pure girl like Luo Zihui who had exquisite taste was rare. It could practically be said that she

was the light of the people in the Human Resources Department, and her fame was not small in the school of management either.

However, Wang Guangning had always been proud and arrogant and wasn't concerned with beautiful women so he didn't recognise her at first.

"Do you have a good relationship with Luo Zihui? She can even causally change your phone's wallpaper." Wang Guangning asked inadvertently.

"Hmm ~ It's not that ~", Zhang Lingyi said smugly, "My relationship with beautiful women is always very good, but Zihui is different. She is my classmate, so I come into contact and communicate with her more. Therefore, my relationship with her is also better than others."

"Hey, *ah shou*, are you jealous?" Zhang Lingyi's eyes were suddenly bright as he stared at Wang Guangning. Then he boldly grasped his shoulder and said, "Don't worry, these thirty days I will be with you alone. Beautiful women in my eyes are only clouds!"

Wang Guangning's shoulder became stiff and his face was black, "Stop bothering me, quickly take a picture and go back to class." Finishing speaking, he opened the camera on Zhang Lingyi's phone and shot several handsome and cool photos using a good angle then set it as the background.

"Why did you take such serious photos?" Zhang Lingyi looked at Wang Guangning's photo, "We're still young, why are you acting so mature. Look at mine!" As he spoke, he faced the camera of Wang Guangning's phone and showed a 'V' gesture. His face also exposed a wide smile and his white teeth were particularly splendid.

After setting up the wallpaper and enjoying its effect, Zhang Lingyi was satisfied and handed it back to Wang Guangning. Then he asked, "*Shou shou*, remember to let those little girls who have crushes on you to glance at your phone for a bit so they can envy and hate it."

Wang Guangning rolled his eyes and said, "Then you also remember to show Luo Zihui your wallpaper." Thinking for a while, he then took Zhang

Lingyi phone, “Set a password first, otherwise people can just casually change your background.”

“Tsk.” Zhang Lingyi touched his chin and said, “Wang Guangning, if I wasn’t involved in this, I would certainly think that you are jealous.”

Wang Guangning pretended he didn’t hear anything and handed back the phone, “Hey, the password is my birthday, 1127.”

“No!” Zhang Linyi’s heart became unbalanced, “Then set your phone’s password as my birthday.” After having spoken, he reached out to steal Wang Guangning’s phone.

“Hmph, I don’t want to.” Wang Guangning protected his cell phone, “Using your birthday as my password will be poisoned¹.”

[1] By poison, he means the phone being hacked or anything to a similar degree.

“Fuck. My phone hasn’t exploded yet, so how your phone have any problems. Quickly give it to me.” Zhang Lingyi hooked Wang Guangning who had been about to run away around the throat, “I don’t even know how many girls in the campus use my birthday as their password. Yours would even be personally set by me, don’t you know much of an honour that is?”

After some intense struggle, Wang Guangning eventually let Zhang Lingyi set his cell phone password.

Seeing that it about time for class, the two people ‘reluctantly’ separated.



Zhang Lingyi returned to class just as the bell rang. The person sitting behind him patted his back and when he turned backwards, his right cheek was caught on his shoulder. A finger which had been looking for the right opportunity then poked him.

“Ah, Zihui, you’re so boring.” Zhang Lingyi frowned. Luo Zihui always liked to play these sort of plots from youth fiction novels. For example, standing on his left side but deliberately reaching behind him to pat his shoulder, then laughing when he turned his head only to discover no one there. Another instance, she would hide a coin in her hand and let him guess whether it was in her left or right fist. If he guessed right, she would take him to eat ice-cream. If he guessed wrong, then he would take her out to eat.

Although Zhang Lingyi didn’t have any dating experience, he did have experience of being sought after by others. The motive behind Luo Zihui’s actions, he wasn’t completely ignorant.

Zhang Lingyi had always been an elegant gentleman. Towards a girl’s expression of goodwill, he would deal with grace if it wasn’t too exaggerated.

Also, Luo Zihui was a girl who was very hard to refuse, not to mention she had a lovely appearance. Her bearing and sense of propriety revealed a degree of comfortable intimacy.

Therefore, in F University, Luo Zihui was the girl he had the best relationship with. He would even sometimes take the initiative to give a response.

Before meeting Yu Haining, he had thought that allowing everything between Luo Zihui and himself to proceed naturally and smoothly was a good thing.

However, today, he believed that as a well-qualified *xiao gong*, he should maintain some distance with the Luo beauty. Therefore, his hand which would usually reach out and poke Luo Zihui’s dimple stooped halfway then returned. He ruthlessly turned his head back, preparing to concentrate on the lecture.

Seeing that Zhang Lingyi did not joke with her like usual, Luo Zihui’s heart felt strange and worried. Patting his shoulder, she said, “Lingyi, give me your phone for me to play a bit.”

He had just been waiting for her to say something!

Laughing cheaply in his heart, Zhang Lingyi handed the phone to her, pretending to be the same as in the past.

Taking it, Luo Zihui was about to open the phone when she realised that Zhang Lingyi who never had a password had finally set one.

“Oh, how come there’s a password?” Luo Zihui’s heart felt slightly upset but her face remained the same as she laughed freely, “Is there a secret hidden in the phone?”

In F University, she was the one woman who was considered as having the best relationship with Zhang Lingyi. Only she could always play with Zhang Lingyi’s phone and feel free to change his wallpaper, even though it was always changed back by him afterwards. Even of a while ago, Zhang Lingyi suddenly decided to chase Yu Haining, she believed that as long as she patiently waited, then she would be able to wait for him.

“Oh, I just set it up. Otherwise, someone would be unhappy.” Zhang Lingyi seemed to be possessed by the Emperor and he calmly took the phone back, “I’ll open it for you.”

“Ha ha, since you always give it to me to play, just say the password to me directly,” Luo Zihui said casually. Sharing a password was very intimate, Luo Zihui asking this was, in fact, exploring Zhang Linyi’s attitude.

But Zhang Lingyi pretended not to hear and typed in the password then handed it to her, “Hey, don’t play until there’s no battery left.”

Luo Zihui knew Zhang Lingyi was deliberately dodging, but she didn’t pester him. Taking the phone, she suddenly realised that the wallpaper had changed a person.

Zhang Lingyi’s wallpaper for his phone had always been his own photos. Each time after this class, it would be replaced by Luo Zihui’s picture. Although Zhang Lingyi had scolded her several times, he hadn’t shown any

serious dissatisfaction so she had always thought her photo was a default in disguise.

She originally thought Zhang Lingyi had just changed it back to his own picture, she didn't think it would be another familiar face.

What kind of situation was this?

The calm beauty Luo Zihui's heart felt messy. How come only a class later, Zhang Lingyi's background had become a picture of his rival Wang Guangning?

Unable to decipher its meaning, she weakly asked Zhang Lingyi, "Linyi... your phone...has it been poisoned?"

"Those two classmates, please listen carefully during class. Don't think that just because it's a handsome guy and beautiful girl that the teacher won't name you ~" The teacher interrupted Zhang Lingyi and Luo Zihui's conversation, and the topic ended, unable to be continued.



For Wang Guangning, he didn't have class that period, so he had no chance to show off to any classmates. Casually buying some bread and milk, he grabbed a book and headed to the library. He was prepared to study for the final exam sprint until the evening arrived.

In the afternoon, Wang Guangning who had read books until his head became dizzy received a message from Zhang Lingyi.

Shou shou, let's eat dinner together?

Towards Zhang Lingyi's way of addressing him, Wang Guangning could already face calmly. However, towards this type of abrupt happenings, he was still unable to adapt.

Three years of suffering and competing fiercely against each other could not be resolved by just three days of their pretending to be gay alliance.

Therefore, Wang Guangning directly ignored him.

He had just finished his shower and was about sleep that night when he received a call from Zhang Lingyi.

“Shou shou, why didn’t you reply to my text?” Zhang Lingyi complained.

“I didn’t see.” Wang Guangning lied with his eyes open.

“Did you know I didn’t eat until now?” Zhang Lingyi said while giving a burp.

“...” Wang Guangning was speechless, he was hungry to the point of burping? “Directly say what you want to say.”

“Oh, I have a discount for a movie tomorrow. Do you have anything special you want to see at 3 o’clock in the afternoon at the North Hong Kong cinema? I can go and buy the tickets in advance and get us a good seat.” Zhang Linyi’s voice filled with excitement came through the phone, abusing Wang Guangning’s mental state.

“Anything is fine. Two grown men watching a movie, what is there to choose.”

“How can we just do that, *shou shou*? We are pretending to be gay, we’re dating alright? Couples watching movies must be given particular attention.” Zhang Lingyi was in contempt.

Wang Guangning rolled his eyes, “Since you’re so experience, it’s your choice to decide. I want to sleep.” Having finished talking, he mercilessly hung up the phone call.

(’ ’) *: New chapter ~

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi ♥

Teaser for the next chapter:

/at the movie theatre/

ZLY: *chooses horror film* (‘ ’*)

ZLY’s IMAGINATION

WGN: Gong, save me $\sim (\pi \pi) (\omega)$

THE REALITY

ZLY: Shou shou, I’m afraid $\#'\omega'\# \subset ('\nabla ') \supset$

WGN: ...

- *translator: k i a i*

ABG30D; 008

008

“When watching movies, setting boundaries this kind of thing has already been broken, alright?”

day five | watching a movie together



Taking the movie ticket, Wang Guangning stared blankly at Zhang Lingyi, “Are you sure you want to see this?”

It was actually the most terrifying horror film of the year.

But the reason for his paralysis was not because it was a horror movie, but rather...he had already seen it three times.

Zhang Lingyi nodded excitedly, “*Shou shou*, I have studied carefully and discovered that horror movies are the ‘little helpers in assisting couples to flirt’ and are like aphrodisiac tablets!”

“Aphrodisiac tablets?” Wang Guangning was speechless. Was there anyone who could tell him what exactly had happened during these last few days? How come horror movies became aphrodisiac tablets?

Zhang Lingyi nodded solemnly, “That’s right. All the guys who take girls out to watch a horror film have one objective — that is, to take advantage and embrace the girl when she becomes scared and starts trembling!”

Wang Guangning’s lips twitched, “Then if it’s the girl asking the guy out to watch a movie?”

“Of course, the main purpose is to pretend to be afraid then take the opportunity to drill into the guy’s arms.” Zhang Lingyi glanced at him, “This question, is it because a girl asked to take you to watch a horror movie?”

“No.” Wang Guangning replied resolutely.

The truth was, it wasn’t that it hadn’t happened before. Rather, it had happened multiple times.

Yes, the three times he had watched this horror movie was because he had been asked by girls. He thought about how the faces of those girls had been so expectant before the movie: “Waa, this looks exciting! We should watch this!” Then while watching the movie, they would scream and stare at him through the darkness with Bambi eyes that were more innocent and adorable than usual. Simultaneously, they would attempt to quietly hide into his arms without warning.

Fortunately, he had experienced this battle hundreds of times. While watching the film, he would fold his arms across his chest so the girls couldn’t take advantage of the opportunity.

The two people held the largest box of popcorn and coke then headed into the cinema.

The film was definitely worthy of being the best of the year.

The scenes were sinister and frightening, the plot was unexpected and the sound effects were top quality.

For Zhang Lingyi who was watching this for the first time, his blood was running cold. However, to Wang Guangning who no longer had the slightest amount of expectation towards the movie, he was calmly eating the popcorn.

Bang!

Crack~

The head of the girl in the film suddenly exploded and blood flowed everywhere. At the same time, Wang Guangning threw a piece of popcorn into his mouth, unperturbed. Just as he was chewing happily at the sounds of ‘cracking’, his line of sight was covered up by a large but slender hand.

“What are you doing?” Wang Guangning pulled Zhang Lingyi’s hand away.

“Ah, I was afraid you would be afraid!” Zhang Lingyi patted his own chest and said, “As a *gong*, I have to shoulder the responsibility of protecting you. Come into my arms!”

Wang Guangning could already face Zhang Lingyi’s convulsive actions that happened from time to time in an unruffled manner, so he only rolled his eyes and ignored him.

“Hey, classmate Wang. As a *shou*, can you please have some self-awareness?” Zhang Lingyi was completely dissatisfied with Wang Guangning who wasn’t cooperating with him, “Don’t you know why I carefully selected this horror movie? Wasn’t it all for this very moment?”

As he said this, one of his hands stretched over to embrace Wang Guangning’s shoulder and forced him into his arms, “*Shou shou*, quickly come into my arms!”

Unable to tolerate it any longer, Wang Guangning grabbed the box of half-eaten popcorn and threw it at Zhang Lingyi’s head. Then he said angrily, “I think you’ve been possessed by a ghost!”

The people sitting a few rows back were shocked by Wang Guangning’s sudden behaviour.

Zhang Lingyi took down the box of popcorn. He was feeling quite aggrieved with the fragrant and sweet popcorn on his head, “*Shou shou*, why won’t you act accordingly to the couple’s guide?”

Wang Guangning sneered, “Because my head hasn’t been stuck between the door before.”

“That hasn’t happened to me either.” Zhang Lingyi tried to defend his own intelligence.

“Then watch the movie properly.” Wang Guangning couldn’t even be bothered to roll his eyes so he turned back around to face the screen.

But Zhang Lingyi’s heart suddenly became more active.

The reason he had chosen this film was to learn how real couple’s flirted. In his original plan, Wang Guangning as the *xiao shou* would be scared and pale. When he burrowed his head into Zhang Lingyi’s arms, he as the mighty *xiao gong* who was like a brave warrior would lightly caress his chrysanthemum...wait, wrong...his back. Gently consoling Wang Guangning was the right thing to do.

Ah, such a harmonious picture, it would absolutely piss off a gang of young girls ~

So why wouldn’t Wang Guangning cooperate with him?

After weighing over it for a while, Zhang Lingyi finally made the painful decision.

The plan could not be aborted, so since the other didn’t want to do it, then he would.

Hence, when the next horrifying shot came out, screaming girls could be heard from around the theatre. The girls sitting in the rows in front could also be seen leaning their heads on the guy’s shoulders.

And then...

Zhang Lingyi copied the *meizi*, and rushed into Wang Guangning’s embrace like a small bird, “*Shou shou*, I’m afraid!”

“.....” Wang Guangning’s expression could no longer endure and finally cracked.



As they came out from the cinema, Wang Guangning's expression had finally returned to normal. However, he stared strangely at Zhang Lingyi and said, "Do you want to go and check your head? I think you have some IQ problems."

Zhang Lingyi angrily replied, "How can you say that, I'm someone who has received a scholarship!"

Sighing with regret, Wang Guangning said, "The important thing is that your behaviour does not match what a scholarship student should project!"

Zhang Lingyi felt wronged, "Wasn't it all because you weren't willing to come into my arms. I had even prepared for it!"

Wang Guangning was speechless.

After arguing for a while, the two prepared to go back when Wang Guangning's phone suddenly rang. Picking it up, they saw that it was actually Yu Haining who they hadn't seen for days.

"How can she still have the face to call?" Zhang Lingyi said in contempt.

Wang Guangning was also slightly stunned for a moment.

Before, it had always been him seeking out Yu Haining. She had never taken the initiative to contact him before, so he was surprised with the sudden call.

He originally had no intention of associating with Yu Haining again, however, it was rare for Yu Haining to take the initiative to call. His curiosity finally exceeded his inner control and he pressed accept.

"Guangning~" Yu Haining's sweet voice came through the phone line, like sugar threading around Wang Guangning, wrapping him in layers.

"What happened?" Wang Guangning's voice was very cold.

She didn't think that the first time she took initiative to call Wang Guangning's phone, he would be so calm. Yu Haining was stunned for a

moment, but she soon recovered and said softly, “I just came back shopping from outside. I’m at the subway and I have a lot of things I’m carrying. I’m too tired to keep walking, can you come and pick me up?”

“No.” Wang Guangning said coolly, directly hanging up the call.

“Tsk, you really didn’t give her any face.” Zhang Lingyi shook his head. Although he didn’t hear what Yu Haining said, he could guess a bit after seeing Wang Guangning’s expression.

“We already know what kind of person she is. Why would I want to foolishly let her use me, I’m not someone who has more wealth than common sense.” Wang Guangning had just finished speaking when Zhang Lingyi’s phone rang.

It was Yu Haining again.

“Fuck, how come she was never so enthusiastic back when we were chasing her?” said Zhang Lingyi in disdain, “Now that we don’t bother with her anymore, she comes and finds us herself.”

Immediately afterwards, his eyes brightened and he glanced cheaply at Wang Guangning before accepting the call.

Yu Haining repeated what she had just said to Wang Guangning.

“Oh, okay. No problem, wait a few minutes, I’ll be there soon.” Zhang *xiao cao* was very warm.

After ending the call, Yu Haining was very satisfied. This what the kind of attitude one should have towards a goddess. Wang Guangning even dared to hang up on her, she must give him the cold shoulder for a while.

At the side, Wang Guangning stared at Zhang Lingyi in puzzlement, “Don’t tell me you still haven’t given up on Yu Haining?”

“Of course I haven’t given up!” said Zhang Lingyi, “Fuck, this young master is so big. The first time I chased a girl, I was unexpectedly played by her. If I don’t find a place to meet, how can I give up?”

“Then you’re going to help her carry her things too?”

“Of course not.” Smirking, Zhang Lingyi muttered a few words into Wang Guangning’s ear.

“This wouldn’t be a good idea.” Yet, Wang Guangning’s innermost conscience only felt a faint excitement.

“How can it not be a good idea, we’re not injuring her. We’re just letting her understand that she can’t play us guys just by relying on her beauty.” Zhang Lingyi replied while pushing Wang Guangning forward.

The subway was halfway between the cinema and F University, so Zhang Lingyi hurriedly pulled Wang Guangning towards it. From a distance, they could see Yu Haining standing at the entrance of the subway playing on her phone, with many large and small bags full of a variety of things placed at her feet.

“Go, you go first.” Zhang Lingyi let go of Wang Guangning’s arm and pushed him towards her.

“But it seems this doesn’t have any bottom line!” Wang Guangning was still a bit hesitant.

“Fuck, you’re already pretending to be gay with me. Isn’t talking about a bottom line too late already? Go faster, quick ~”, Zhang Lingyi urged.

Wang Guangning considered it. He was already pretending to be gay with Zhang Lingyi, so this matter of a bottom line had basically already been broken. Hence, he was no longer embarrassed and headed towards Yu Haining.

“Haining, I’ve come to pick you up.”

Yu Haining had been too immersed in playing her game so she hadn’t been paying attention to people around her. She was startled and lifted her head, only to be surprised once again at seeing Wang Guangning.

“Ah, Guangning, how come you came?” Yu Haining asked in astonishment.

“Weren’t you the one who called me?” Wang Guangning replied innocently.

“Didn’t you say you wouldn’t come?” said Yu Haining.

“Ha, I was just joking with you.” Wang Guangning adopted a posture as if he was going to pick a bag from the ground, “You called me, so how could I not come?”

“Wait,” Yu Haining quickly shouted out to stop him, wanting to find an excuse to prevent him from doing anything. Then she saw Zhang Lingyi running over towards them from far away as if he was flying. While sprinting, he yelled, “Haining, I’ve come.”

In the evening of winter, the sun’s rays were thin and there was also a cold wind that could be lightly brushed away. The corner of Zhang Lingyi’s jacket flipped over and his features were elegant, unexpectedly producing a hint of sunshine.

At this moment, Wang Guangning seemed to hear a slight illusion.

In his ears, Zhang Lingyi’s shout automatically became — Guangning, I have come.

It was truly a scene that warmed the heart.

Yu Haining did not know how things had become like this. She had always been able to deal with being between the two *xiao cao* quite well.

Although they were both too young, and couldn’t give her wealth and brand named items like those well-established middle aged men, they were both greatly sought after men in F University. These two handsome guys chasing after her perfectly satisfied her vanity.

Her heart was actually slightly moved by them. After all, middle aged men had money, but none of Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi’s vitality and handsomeness.

Only, she was too greedy. She was reluctant to have to choose between them, and wanted to seize both.

Zhang Lingyi had already arrived in front of them and for a short period of time even seemed to be gasping for breath. Glancing at Wang Guangning, his brow suddenly wrinkled and his tone became poor, “Haining, how come he is here too?”

“This...” Everyone knew that Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi did not like each other. Even Yu Haining who could socialise well with others didn’t know what to do for a time, unable to deal with the changes.

Wang Guangning’s face also turned ugly, “Yu Haining, I didn’t think you were such a person.” Then he walked away violently.

“Guangning...” Yu Haining wanted to redeem herself, but Zhang Lingyi who was standing at the side also spoke, “Yu Haining, please don’t look for me anymore in the future.”

Finishing speaking, he flicked his head and elegantly walked away from the scene.

“Ha ha, this young master has finally expelled the resentment from my heart.” Zhang Lingyi proudly laid his hand on Wang Guangning’s shoulder.

Wang Guangning felt slightly uncomfortable and his shoulders were stiff. But then, thinking that since they were both grown men, there was nothing to be embarrassed about so he let Zhang Lingyi do as he pleased.

The night breeze revealed a hint of coolness.

Wang Guangning asked, “Zhang Lingyi, why did you chase Yu Haining?”

“Ah, this~”, Zhang Lingyi gazed up, silent.

Wang Guangning waited for half a day for him to continue, then finally impatiently used his elbow to hit his arm, “Stop trying to draw out the climax, say it quickly.”

For once, Zhang Lingyi didn’t know how to express himself, “If I say it, you’re not allowed to explode.”

Wang Guangning narrowed his eyes, it seemed there was a hidden secret. Pretending he didn't care, he said, "How could I be so stingy, quickly say it!"

"That...things are like this..." Zhang Lingyi scratched his head, "We're already in our third year, right, so I thought it was the right time to start dating otherwise after another two years, university would be over and I would've missed the golden period...but ever since I was small, I've never had a crush on any girl. Originally, I was just going to date Zihui, but then I heard the news about you chasing Yu Haining..."

"Fuck!" Wang Guangning felt a mouthful of blood blocking his throat, "You deliberately tried to steal Yu Haining from me?" If he dared to say yes, even if he was lying, Wang Guangning would beat him until he died.

"Oh, I didn't want to initially. But think about it, you've competed with me ever since I entered F University. Although you have always been slightly inferior to me, it still shows that you are very good, so I also believed in your taste...Hey, stop hitting me. This is me complimenting you, alright?"

"Fuck! You dare to say stop hitting you? I'm still so angry, you claim to be on the same level as me, yet I didn't expect you to have such a vision..."

After arguing and messing around for a while, the two finally stopped.

Still angry, Wang Guangning ignored Zhang Lingyi.

"Hey, you also tell me. How come you liked Yu Haining~" Zhang Lingyi pretended not to see Wang Guangning's anger and elbowed him.

"Hmph!" Wang Guangning turned his head around in a particularly arrogant yet loveable manner, ignoring Zhang Lingyi.

"Say it~" Zhang *xiao cao* was especially flattering.

Wang Guangning still ignored him.

"I'll exchange a day of being *gong* with you if you tell me!" Zhang Lingyi struggled to make this decision.

Wang Guangning's eyes lit up, "Three days!"

"Two days." Zhang Lingyi showed an unyielding expression.

"Deal!" Wang Guangning laughed, his eyes bright.

He already had such an outstanding appearance, and such a smile was very radiant, seeming to expel the coldness of the winter.

Zhang Lingyi heard his heart jumping heavily, and he was suddenly a little nervous.

The turbulence resulted from such a strange emotion caused him to become overwhelmed and he could only quickly divert their attention, "Quickly say it then!"

"Let me think first!" Wang Guangning stared at the sky from a forty-five degree angle. Only after a long time did he say slowly, "I liked her because she was pure and beautiful."

"....." Although Zhang Lingyi did not say it, his eyes vividly expressed his utmost contempt.

Fuck!

Pure and beautiful?

Just these two words had cheated him away his identity of being *gong* for two days. He really wanted to shout, "I want a return!"

However, as a real man, he did not end up saying such tasteless words.

> /// < They're finally getting somewhere ~

Just want to take this chance to say thank you to everyone who is reading this novel, and even though I don't reply to every comment, I do appreciate them and I love reading what you all think (' • ~ • ') ♡

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 009

009

“Keeping the other company when they fall ill, but what if they’re not sick?”

day six | sitting with you in bed while you are sick, putting your head on my chest, watching movies together, feeding you medicine, accompanying you to get injection



Don’t you think it’s too crazy to do this?

Zhang Lingyi received a text from Wang Guangning early in the morning.

How can that be? This way we can express our deep feelings! o(≧v≦)o

But neither of us are sick.

.....

Wang Guangning looked at the message sent by Zhang Lingyi for a while and thought that he had finally convinced the other. He didn’t expect that after a while, his phone would light up again.

Shou shou, how about you pretend to be sick! I will do my best to take care of you!

Angry, Wang Guangning quickly replied to him, his fingers typing quickly.

If we're going to pretend, you should be the one pretending. Don't forget what you said yesterday, for the next two days you're the shou!

Zhang Lingyi's reply came back fast.

If I'm going to pretend, then I'll pretend {{{(>_<)}}} *Xiao gong gong*, you must take good care of me! I'm lying on the bed, waiting for you to come and take care of me ~@^_^@~

This was definitely a conspiracy!

Wang Guangning had already given up all hope towards this world which was trying to act cute.

Stretching his waist, Wang Guangning got up to have a shower then he headed towards the library with his textbooks.

His own self who was acting crazy with Zhang Lingyi was really too crazy, Wang Guangning felt that he needed to immerse himself in the mathematics world in order to purify his spirit.

It was near the end of the semester so the library was overcrowded.

Wang Guangning finally found a seat and he glanced up, only to find that the one sitting opposite was Luo Zihui.

For such a high level beauty like Luo Zihui, everyone in the campus had heard of but rarely seen. Wang Guangning had met her several times and his impression towards her was not back. Hence, he smiled at her then nodded.

Luo Zihui also smiled, but without revealing her teeth, just like a wise and virtuous woman.

Lowering his head, Wang Guangning proceeded to read. After a while, Luo Zihui handed a note over.

Wang Guangning had a few suspicions. After reading it, the result was that the note said: **My phone is dead, can I borrow your phone to make a call?**

Wang Guangning didn't think much of it and handed it directly to her.

Luo Zihui took the phone and fiddled for a bit, then gave it back with an attached note: **You set a password.**

It was only now that Wang Guangning realised that he had set a password together with Zhang Lingyi two days ago. At the same time, he also remembered another thing — the wallpaper for his cell was a photo of Zhang Lingyi.

Wang Guangning's heart immediately had an awkward feeling, not knowing what to say. Although a password had been set for his phone, the screen background would still be shown when pressing the keys. Therefore, Luo Zihui must've already seen it just then.

Although he wanted to retaliate against society and hurt the hearts of the other girls, Luo Zihui was different to the rest. After all, she and Zhang Lingyi had quite a close relationship. Just yesterday, he had said that he had once considered dating her. Even though he and Zhang Lingyi were currently pretending to be gay, it couldn't be guaranteed that Zhang Lingyi wouldn't date her in the future.

The more Wang Guangning thought about it, the more unsettled he became. However, seeing Luo Zihui's usual demeanour, she didn't seem to be surprised in the least. His mind calming, Wang Guangning replied to her with another piece of paper: **Oh, sorry. I suddenly remembered, I don't have any more credit on my phone so I'm afraid a phone call will not be possible.**

Since it's like this, then it's alright. I'll find someone else to borrow from! Luo Zihui smiled then passed the note back: **Ah, right. Can you do me favour?**

Wang Guangning drew a few '?' back at her.

Lingyi's roommate told me that Linyi was sick so I wanted to give him some porridge. But the girls are not allowed to go to the guys' dormitory, can you take it to him for me?

Wang Guangning was unable to laugh.

Everyone in F university knew that Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's relationship was like water and fire.

Luo Zihui and Zhang Lingyi's relationship was so good, so how could she not know what Zhang Lingyi's attitude used to be liked towards him? And she even wanted him to give Zhang Lingyi porridge?

Wang Guangning didn't understand Luo Zihui's thoughts.

However, he did not refuse.

At midday, Wang Guangning took the take-away lean meat porridge Luo Zihui bought from the cafeteria to Zhang Lingyi's dorm room.

F University was a newly built campus so the dormitory had the standard quadruple rooms. They were the type of dorms which had the tables below and beds above.

Since it was near the end of the semester, the other people who lived in Zhang Lingyi's dorm were out doing self-study. Hence, Zhang Lingyi was lying alone in the bed reading with his blanket half covering him. Hearing the knock on the door, he shouted lazily, "The door isn't locked, come in."

Wang Guangning pushed open the door and walked inside.

As soon as Zhang Linyi caught sight of Wang Guangning, his eyes brightened and he placed the book aside. Lying on his stomach with his head stretched out to the bedside, he wore a dispirited appearance, "How come you only came now. I've almost died from being sick..."

Finishing his words, he then coughed twice forcefully.

"....." Wang Guangning's entire head was filled with black lines. Ah, this was a child who had immersed himself in the play using his life ~

"Hey, you seem fine." Wang Guangning was speechless. Placing the porridge down on the table, he said, "Luo Zihui asked me to give this

porridge to you. You should come down and drink it.”

Hearing this, Zhang Lingyi frowned, “You told Luo Zihui?”

Wang Guangning felt the suspicion in Zhang Lingyi’s words and he also didn’t know how to explain so he replied snappily, “Your roommate told her, I only just met Luo Zihui in the library.”

“Oh.” Zhang Lingyi finally understood, but then he was puzzled again, “Wait, no. Then shouldn’t she ask my roommate to send it to me? How come she asked you?”

Before when he was still in discord with Wang Guangning, he had spoken badly about him many times in front of Luo Zihui. So why would she ask him to bring it?

“How would I know.” Wang Guangning shot him a supercilious look. This kind of thing he should ask Luo Zihui, not him.

“Ah, forget it. Let’s not think about that anymore.” Zhang Lingyi looked up, “But a woman’s mind is really difficult to guess.” Then he stuck out his head, “*Shou shou*, bring my laptop up.”

Wang Guangning didn’t understand, “What for?”

“Ah, of course it’s to implement our plan of pretending to be gay.” Zhang Lingyi said confidently, “I haven’t even said anything to you, *shou shou*. Ah, no, today you are the *gong*. Whatever the case, I’m still your boyfriend. I’m even sick, yet you still had the heart to go to the library. My heart is so cold now...I’ll give you a chance to redeem yourself, come up.”

Wang Guangning’s lips twitched. Zhang Lingyi’s train of thoughts in his brain was indeed not ordinarily complicated.

He knew that if he was normal, then he should let this matter which was completely lacking in objective to end here. Yet, he didn’t know for what reason he faintly was not willing to conclude it prematurely.

Hence, he took the laptop and ended up climbing up onto Zhang Lingyi's bed.

"He he, come on. This young master will give you half the blanket." Zhang Lingyi grinned and received the laptop. Then he shuffled inwards so that half the space of the bed was exposed. The winter blanket was indeed a temptation, especially since Wang Guangning had just come in from outside and his body still carried some chilling air.

Therefore, he bluntly burrowed into Zhang Lingyi's blanket.

The blanket had been used by Zhang Lingyi for an entire morning, so it was very warm inside. When Wang Guangning drilled into it, he suddenly let out a comfortable sigh.

Studying him for a while, Zhang Lingyi then silently gave up half the pillow to him.

"What are you doing?" Wang Guangning couldn't help but ask.

"Finding a movie." Zhang Lingyi placed the laptop on the bed then clicking, he opened one folder after another before finally selecting a movie. Wang Guangning glanced at it — The Love of Siam.

"....."

"I searched on Baidu¹ and it says that this film is a classic for gay men. Who cares about how pure and innocent it is, in any case, we're pretending to be gay. It's only natural that we watch this movie."

[1] Baidu is a search engine used by the Chinese.

"....." Wang Guangning decided to just quietly watch the movie and not further examine Zhang Lingyi's thoughts.

Just when he thought everything had calmed down, Zhang Lingyi's once action frightened him so much he nearly tumbled off the bed.

Zhang Lingyi's head was leaning on his shoulder, especially like a timid and lovable little woman.

"What are you doing?" Wang Guangning finally could not help but push him as he roared furiously.

Feeling wronged, Zhang Lingyi looked at him then removed a piece of paper from behind them. It was that piece of paper written *30 Things Couples Must Do Together* that had pushed them on this road of no return.

He said, "We have to do according to what is written above. When I'm sick, you have to sit beside me in bed and I'll put my head on your chest. We'll watch movies together, and you were originally supposed to feed me medicine and accompany me while I get injections. But actually eating medicine and getting an injection is too foolish, so we'll just lean against each other and watch a movie!"

Isn't what we're doing now very foolish?

Inside, Wang Guangning's soul was weeping.

At that time, why was he so demented to think of doing such a damaging and detrimental activity. Why had he agreed to pretend to be gay with Zhang Lingyi?

If time could be repeated, Wang Guangning would certainly rush back to the day they decided to be gay and not hesitate to kick himself.

Wang Guangning was both annoyed and upset, yet faced with the excited expression in Zhang Lingyi's eyes, he did not end up saying anything.

"Oh~"

Sighing in his heart, Wang Guangning helplessly compromised with him for once, "Then come and lean on me."

"Ye2~", cheered Zhang Lingyi who once again became a 'timid and lovable little woman' as he leaned against Wang Guangning's shoulder.

[2] : final particle that indicates enthusiasm.

Ten minutes later.

“Why is the story so slow?” Zhang Lingyi was very impatient.

“.....” Wang Guangning was too lazy to care about him, weren’t all innocent films like this?

After another ten minutes.

Zhang Lingyi, “Zzz.....”

Wang Guangning watched silently as Zhang Lingyi fell asleep with his mouth open. Then, his head dropped slowly from Wang Guangning’s shoulder, to his chest, then slipped down to his thigh.

Zhang Lingyi’s face was turned slightly up towards Wang Guangning’s stomach. Lowering his head, Wang Guangning could just catch sight of his enigmatic facial features, and his dark black lashes which covered his eyes.

The him who had fallen asleep quietly was elegant and not all feminine, instead distinctly appearing quite intelligent. If he didn’t open his mouth, he absolutely wouldn’t cause other people to think he was stupid.

He was indeed quite a good looking person.

Wang Guangning didn’t know why, but he was unexpectedly deeply moved.

Such a cute and fluffy chapter (♡ ~ ♡)

Hope you all enjoy ٩(◡̈)۶

Also, if anyone has a NU account, I’d really appreciate it if you could recommend this novel and post a review ~

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 010

010

“Drinking from the same glass, did you already spit inside it?”

*day seven | sharing a drink together and remembering what kind of food
the other person likes and dislikes*



***Shou shou*, this young master will invite you to self-study together at
the café in the library tomorrow.**

Rejected.

**Your rejection is invalid. Tomorrow afternoon at three, this young
master will order a drink brimming with the flavour of the feelings of
first love. Come and drink with me.**

Please order Blue Sky, thank you.

**Ah, so it turns out our family's¹ *shou shou* likes blueberry flavoured
drinks. You should've said earlier then!**

[1] : literally translates to ‘our family’.

Get lost.

After sending the last message, Wang Guangning turned off his phone then
went to sleep.

Seeing Wang Guangning's reply, Zhang Lingyi was overjoyed. How could he have thought in the past that Wang Guangning was particularly arrogant or annoying? Obviously he was very amusing!

Holding a brilliant smile on his face, Zhang Lingyi then received a text from Luo Zihui.

Lingyi, do you want to go to the library together tomorrow morning?

Zhang Lingyi replied in passing: **Sure.**

Early the next morning, when Zhang Lingyi walked downstairs with bleary eyes, Luo Zihui had already bought breakfast and was waiting for him.

Smoothly taking the breakfast, Zhang Lingyi walked with her while yawning, "Ah, why are we going so early. This young master is exhausted."

Luo Zihui smiled and said, "It's not early, if we were any later then there'll be no seats left."

Zhang Lingyi yawned listlessly again.

Luo Zihui held her books while watching Zhang Lingyi eat. The almost as she was just asking inadvertently, she said, "Oh, that's right. How come recently you're not bringing up Yu Haining anymore?"

Stiffening for a moment, Zhang Lingyi swallowed, "Nothing, I just suddenly thought she doesn't suit me."

As a very self-restrained *xiao cao*, Zhang Lingyi insisted on not speaking wrongly of women even though he completely despised people like Yu Haining.

Hearing this, Luo Zihui's eyes brightened. Her lips lifted up into a smile and she said, "Then...what kind of girl do you think suits you?"

Glancing up, Zhang Lingyi pretended to seriously consider it before saying, "Ah, this question is very profound. I have to first think about it for a while."

Luo Zihui knew that Zhang Lingyi was deliberately evading her question. Since he was avoiding it, that demonstrated that Zhang Lingyi already understood her thoughts towards him. However, knowing Zhang Lingyi's personality, he didn't reject her even though he obviously already knew.

Therefore, that meant she had a chance.

Although she didn't know every single person acquainted with Zhang Lingyi, she was confident that there would not appear anyone more suitable for him than herself.

So, what she needed was just patience.

Patiently wait for Zhang Lingyi to realise that in his heart, he actually did like her.

Arriving at the library, they finally found two seats next to each other in the large crowd of people with great difficulty. Placing his books down, Zhang Lingyi immediately lied down on the table and sighed, "This young master is so tired. I'll sleep for a bit first."

Luo Zihui smiled then reached for his notebook. Just like in the past, she earnestly wrote down the main points and filled in any missing notes.

Although Zhang Lingyi received high grades, he actually did not like studying. He would often skip classes, and even if he did attend class, he would usually be very absent-minded. In the last two years, his notes and summaries have always been done for him by Luo Zihui.

Luo Zihui's handwriting was very beautiful and she was very dedicated. At a glance, it made other people feel very comfortable.

As she was writing, Luo Zihui suddenly saw that a picture of a crooked little head had been drawn on a page of Zhang Lingyi's book which had always been clean. The expression of the little person's face was fierce and the hair had completely exploded. There were three words written on the side — exploding hair² shou.

[2] : means ‘fried hair’ in literal terms, but refers to a person losing their calm after being angered.

After staring at it for a while, Luo Zihui was unable to understand. Not taking it to heart, she then continued taking the notes.

It was nearly noon when Zhang Lingyi finally woke up. Stretching himself, he said, “Ah, so comfortable.”

Grinning, Luo Zihui handed him back his notebook, “I’ve finished writing the main points and the notes are all completed.”

“Oh, thank you.” Zhang Lingyi took his book back. Towards this kind of thing, he and Luo Zihui both had a tacit understanding so they didn’t need to say much.

“You’re always like this, not listening in class. If one day I can’t write notes for you anymore, what will you do?” said Luo Zihui as if it would come true.

“Tsk, that won’t be a big deal. There are many girls willing to fight to write notes for this young master,” Zhang Lingyi said as his lips curled up.

Luo Zihui’s eyes which had been filled with expectations dimmed and her smile stiffened. However, she was a person who knew when to advance and when to retreat so she still smiled strongly, “Ah, of course. How could I forget that our Zhang *xiao cao* is F University’s public lover?”

“But, it will be hard to find someone who writes better notes than you,” He praised sincerely as he looked at her neat and clear writing. His words caused Luo Zihui’s complexion to brighten up.

Zhang Lingyi clearly didn’t discover the undulations in Luo Zihui’s heart. Instead, he picked up his things and said, “Let’s go and eat lunch.”

“You’re not coming in the afternoon?” Luo Zihui watched him take his things and couldn’t help but ask.

It was difficult to find a seat in the library near the end of the term so many people wouldn't take their things when leaving for lunch.

"I have something in the afternoon, so I won't be coming back." As he said this, Zhang Lingyi's tone carried a faint excitement.

En, it seemed he recently loved doing this little play of pretending to be gay.

Since he had already said this, Luo Zihui didn't pursue any further.

At two o'clock in the afternoon, Zhang Lingyi appeared at the library café with his textbooks. He only ordered a glass of lemonade and sat by the window and read his books.

Having done a few days of acting gay with Wang Guangning, he knew very clearly that the other was a very punctual person. He wouldn't arrive early or arrive late.

At two forty-five, Zhang Lingyi asked the waitress for a glass of Blue Sky and two straws.

At two fifty-five, the Blu Sky drink was carried over.

At three o'clock, Wang Guangning appeared right on time at the entrance of the café.

Zhang Lingyi waved cheerfully at him.

Wang Guangning stared at the glass of bright blue drink in front of him and the...two straws inside the glass and couldn't help but sweat again.

As soon as Wang Guangning sat down, Zhang Lingyi immediately pushed the glass filled with blue liquid towards him and said, "You've finally come."

"Did you wait long?" Wang Guangning glanced at the book in his hand. In his heart, a faint flash of pleasure passed through which even he himself did not realise.

“Ah, yes. I thought the environment here wasn’t too bad so I decided to just read here too.”

The café was usually not full of people due to the fact they had to pay. However, people who couldn’t find seats in the library would still often come to this place and buy a drink then sit at a table and review lessons.

Wang Guangning nodded then scanned their surroundings. Since it was near the end of the semester, the café which was nearly always deserted now had many customers, and he couldn’t help but feel embarrassed, “It seems there a little more people than usual, and we’ll be in their full view...”

Zhang Lingyi frowned, “Why are you afraid of being seen? Isn’t the reason we’re pretending to be gay so other people can see? Besides, didn’t you already say that reputation would be no longer relevant after graduating from university?”

After thinking about it, Wang Guangning also thought that seemed about right.

Speaking of this, he had initially come up with such a foolish idea because he never wanted to believe in love again and had wanted to surprise the girls. However, after a few days of implementing their plan, his anger towards Yu Haining had become more and more subdued. His intention of getting revenge against society had also lessened, and he was gradually becoming aware of how inappropriate this decision was.

There were also several times when he had the impulse to stop everything. Yet, Zhang Lingyi had been so enthusiastic so he couldn’t speak out his words of refusal.

This idea was his, so just patting his own ass and leaving after pulling the other into the water wasn’t his style.

Besides, it was only for a month. Wang Guangning would just treat it as a boring game; at the most, he would have to compensate for having such thick-skin.

Rubbing his eyebrows, he started the official business, “Then let’s get this over and done as quick as possible.”

Hearing this, Zhang Lingyi was dissatisfied, “How can you say such a thing? We are a couple! Couple!”

“Alright, I understand,” Wang Guangning consoled him, stopping the other from continuing further.

Only then did Zhang Lingyi pick up his straw and suck at it happily.

Wang Guangning hesitated for a moment before proceeding to suck from the other straw.

Afterwards, there was indeed continuous sounds of air being persistently drawn out from the straws which they did not manage to succeed in suppressing.

Truly...they had thrown away their face.

Wang Guangning closed his eyes, ears and heart, pretending as if he didn’t hear anything.

Zhang Lingyi deliberately provoked him. Biting his straw then leaning over, he whispered, “I can see the girl who asked you out to eat dinner from the student union sitting right behind you.”

As he was biting the straw, some of Zhang Lingyi’s words were unclear but Wang Guangning could still understand.

His head exploded and his face reddened.

Although he had decided to throw away his face, for Wang Guangning who had previously always been arrogant, losing his face in front of someone who liked him was something he absolutely could not bear.

Hatefully glaring at Zhang Lingyi, Wang Guangning simply turned his head away and ignored him.

Watching him losing his calm and his expression of being unable to endure any further, Zhang Lingyi once again felt refreshed.

“She must be heartbroken!” Zhang Lingyi’s expression was especially exaggerated.

After a while, the height of the drink still did not change.

Wang Guangning couldn’t help but frown and said, “Hey, did you spit inside here? How come it’s not reducing at all?”

Angered, Zhang Lingyi said, “You were the one who spat in it!”

The two people stared silently at the glass before unanimously saying, “Fuck, I didn’t drink.”

After all, it was their first time sharing a drink with someone else and both these people who would always shamelessly show off their good looks had slight mysophobia. It was inevitable there would be a psychological impediment thus no matter how much they bit at the straw, they didn’t drink.

“No, we haven’t finished drinking this so our task isn’t complete,” Zhang Lingyi said. However, they had both bitten their straws and they couldn’t tell who had drank and who had not. After thinking about it, he pulled out a pen then drew a mark at different heights on the glass.

“Come, let’s play Morra. The person who loses must drink to the point where a mark is made.”

Although Wang Guangning thought it was very...idiotic, however, he didn’t have any other ideas hence they agreed.

As a result, another spectacle once again appeared at the café in F University’s library. The two *xiao cao* were sitting inside the café and fiercely playing...Morra.

Then, the person who lost particularly painfully...drank from the legendary blueberry flavoured beverage, Blue Sky.

Could it be that the harmonious scene that they just saw of Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi drinking together was actually an illusion?

Could it be that a special ingredient had been added into the glass that made it very unpleasant to drink?

Could it be that this was in fact, an alternative showdown?

The students in F University felt that they couldn't understand the world more and more.

These two just can't do anything without arguing at least once (*'▽'*)

The author has something to say: Small Theatre

Zhang Lingyi: *Shou shou*, did you spit in the drink? How come after half a day it hasn't lessened?

Wang Guangning: I did, why?

Zhang Lingyi: No wonder it tastes so good!

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 011

011

“Reading together in the library and when tired, look up and gaze gently at the other”

day eight | reading together in the library and when tired, look up and gaze gently at the other



Zhang Lingyi’s dormitory door jolted like thunder early in the morning. The other people in his dorm had already left to review, leaving only him still in bed.

“Coming.” With his hair like a bird’s nest, Zhang *xiao cao* bleakly opened the door with bleary eyes, only to see Wang Guangning standing outside waiting for him holding his books.

“Wait for me.” Zhang Lingyi’s spirits lifted and he quickly rushed back inside to brush his teeth and throw on his clothes. He didn’t take more than ten minutes in total before he ran back out again, glistening brightly as he held a stack of books in his arms. His face was particularly vibrant as it was turned towards the sun.

“*Shou shou*, let’s go.”

Wang Guangning’s heart couldn’t help but sigh. No wonder he was worthy of being the main pillar of the university’s track and field team, his speed really was quite fast.

Although Zhang Lingyi had dawdled in bed, but thankfully Wang Guangning was punctual so when they arrived at the library, they could still find two seats facing each other.

That's right, they were facing each other.

In his mind, Zhang Lingyi envisioned two extremely handsome guys sitting face to face in the seats near the windows who were earnestly studying with their heads low. Their bodies were immersed in the golden sunlight, and the scene was especially refreshing.

Afterwards, one of the guys became slightly tired and languidly stretched their body. At exactly the same moment, the other guy had lifted his head and the two people smiled at each other in mutual understanding.

But not too warm!

However, the reality was quite lacking. Their seats were in the corner and not by the window, so they couldn't bathe in the golden sunlight.

While Zhang Lingyi was feeling regretful, Wang Guangning had already taken the lead and sat down.

Zhang Lingyi quickly sat down across from him and watched him skilfully open his textbook and start reading.

Yi, don't tell me you're not even going to say anything?

Zhang Lingyi stared at Wang Guangning's unconcerned and ordinary behaviour and inwardly felt a bit disappointed. However, he also obediently opened his book and started to review.

Although their original intention of going to the library was to 'stare at each other affectionally', it did seem a bit foolish to do that for the entire time.

Like this, the two people quietly read their textbooks in the library. There seemed to be no difference compared to usual, yet there also seemed to be something different.

There was someone eating snacks in the library, *sha sha sha*¹.

[1] : sounds of rustling

There was someone using their life to write, *shua shua shua*².

[2] : sounds of the brush

There was someone playing on his computer as if no one else was present, *da da da*³.

[3] : sounds of typing

There was someone walking around with high heels, *ka ka ka*.

It was obviously quite annoying, yet, Zhang Lingyi unexpectedly felt a quiet and calming feeling.

Wang Guangning's expression as his head was lowered while reading was very peaceful, giving people a sense of relaxation. For someone like Zhang Lingyi who was accustomed to creating chaos, he actually felt light and at ease.

After a long time, Zhang Lingyi who had been immersed in baptising his soul suddenly recalled the reason why they had come here.

Wang Guangning then found that Zhang Lingyi had passed him a slip of paper.

Shou shou, I'm tired.

Failing to understand, Wang Guangning lifted his head and just happened to be faced with what Zhang Lingyi believed to be a very tender gaze.

Zhang Lingyi's eyes couldn't be considered big, but they were very deep. At this moment, he was striving hard to exhibit an expression of a deep feeling of tenderness in his eyes.

Since he was without any other choices, he became too invested and instead showed a very fierce stare.

Wang Guangning thought that he had received an internal injury.

Zhang Lingyi didn't expect Wang Guangning to not respond enthusiastically and even hold an expression as if he was enduring something. In his heart, appeared a ball of unhappiness. Once again writing on a piece of paper, he threw it over: **Pay attention to the eyes! Tender!**

Wang Guangning this time really did receive an internal injury. He silently lifted his book to block his face and then slowly moved it down until his eyes were uncovered, before directing his gaze at Zhang Lingyi and blinking twice.

Wang Guangning was very handsome with monolids so his expression when he fluttered his eyes was indeed really too cute.

Zhang Lingyi's efforts to create a 'tender' expression instantly cracked and he closed his books then said, "The task is completed, let's go back."

Leisurely placing his book down, Wang Guangning said, "I came here to review, not to do the task. You can go back yourself."

Indignantly lifting his middle finger in his heart, Zhang Lingyi's lips curled up in a proud manner and he opened his book again.

This matter of feeling comfortable when reviewing with Wang Guangning, he would never admit it.

The two of them reviewed for an entire day. Even at both dinner and lunch, they sat and solved questions together in the cafeteria.

That night, when Wang Guangning returned to his dormitory, Sun Siyang who had been staring at his computer turned his head in horror, "Guangning, you're on the front page of the forum again."

Eyelid twitching, Wang Guangning quickly turned on his computer.

It was still on the front page, and the forum moderator had even granted an award.

Xiao cao VS xiao cao, I have given up all hope towards this gay world - the thread had been posted yesterday, but the fact was that it had become hot today.

The contents of the thread was very simple:

Fuck! I went to the library café to study, so how come there was such a scene? ? ? ?

Ah, god. Is there anyone who can tell me exactly what happened?

Aren't these the two legendary xiao cao who don't recognise each other⁴?

[4] : means that two kings cannot exist in one kingdom.

How come they appeared in the café together?

Ah, what's even more shocking is — why are they sharing a drink?

o(>_<)o ~~ Are they gay?

Even Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi are together, how could there still be any good gay men in the world?

Impressively, there was even a photo below of Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi sharing the drink in the café.

There were many people discussing it, and the debate was basically circled around these two main points —

First, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were pretending to not get along. In truth, they were actually gay.

There were two main types of people who held this view. One were guys who did not like Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi, commonly known as haters. They had long been dissatisfied with Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's monopolising of the school beauties, so they were grabbing the chance to throw hate at them. The other kind was rotten women⁵ who were loving what they were hearing and seeing. They launched many theories from childhood sweethearts, to lovers who mutually fought each other, committing all manners of crimes.

[5] : fujoshis > . <

Second, this was Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's alternative way of competing. The people who held this view about the drinks were in a completely deadlocked discussion.

One example was, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were both very fond of this type of drink, however, the café business was too good and there was only one glass left. This was then what resulted in Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's fight over the drink.

Another example was, that the both of them were actually masters of internal strength and they were in fact using internal force to duel.

Another example was, this drink had added ingredients and they were actually just playing Truth or Dare, with the one who lost receiving the penalty.

And there were more examples further on.

There were many young women crying below, saying they no longer believed in love.

Scanning their ID, Wang Guangning found that many of those girls were his fans.

That's right, as a narcissistic *xiao cao*, Wang Guangning was very clear on the sock-puppets⁶ of his own fans.

[6] : A sock-puppet is an online identity used for purposes of deception. Already said this in a previous chapter, but copied it here in case anyone forgot.

Seeing the , Wang Guangning expression became very lively.

Going on a thread with such a topic, he was unable to say he was happy, and yet, this was indeed his objective at the start when he had been angry.

Behind him, Sun Siyang asked cautiously, “Guangning, what really happened between you and Zhang Lingyi?”

What happened?

Wang Guangning also didn’t know how to reply to this.

Could he say they were just playing around?

But the entirety of F University knew that he and Zhang Lingyi didn’t have a relationship where they could just ‘play around’ with each other.

He could just say it directly, that they were pretending to be gay?

But to say such a frank and dishonest thing, regardless of the fact that Sun Siyang probably couldn’t accept, even Wang Guangning himself was somewhat on the verge of collapse.

Finally, he gazed up at the ceiling and gave a long sigh, “This matter, it’s a long story.”

Then he closed his computer and left to shower then climbed into bed, ready to sleep.

“Hey, Guangning, you still haven’t told me what exactly the matter even is.” Sun Siyang was very dissatisfied with Wang Guangning’s evasive behaviour.

Wang Guangning threw a pillow down, “Don’t be noisy.”

Then he proceeded to open his phone and message Zhang Lingyi.

Wang Guangning: Have you seen the discussion?

Zhang Lingyi: I've seen it. Ha ha ha, I'm dying from laughter.

Wang Guangning: , how is it funny?

Zhang Lingyi: I saw that someone wrote there was medicine for abortion in that drink.

Wang Guangning:

Zhang Lingyi: There were many girls who said they were too heartbroken to continue reviewing, I'm very pleased!

Wang Guangning:

Zhang Lingyi: Oh, right. *Shou shou*, I'm going out to buy some things tomorrow and go home in passing. You should come with me.

Wang Guangning: Not going, I want to go to the library.

Zhang Lingyi: (ㄟ_ㄟ)# If you go to the library, how can we hold hands together and place them in a pocket?

Wang Guangning: , but I need to review.

Zhang Lingyi: Ah, I know. You just have to take your book along and study at my house. I guarantee the conditions are n times better than the library.

Wang Guangning knew Zhang Lingyi was a person who lived in G city. However, pretending to be gay was one thing, and he thought that going to his home was not a good idea.

Hence, Wang Guangning decided that if he couldn't afford to offend, then he could at least hide. Early tomorrow morning, he would slip away stealthily.

He's not going to just let you sneak away like that 😏😏😏

translator: k i a i

OceanofPDF.com

ABG30D; 012

012

“Placing hands together in one pocket to keep warm, then...squeezing each other to death”

day nine | during winter, place hands together in one pocket to keep warm and hold each other tightly



It had to be mentioned that Zhang Lingyi's enthusiasm for pretending to be gay exceeded far beyond Wang Guangning's expectations.

For the purpose of acting gay, he could actually give up his favorite activity of sleeping in.

When Wang Guangning opened the door early the next morning, he found Zhang Lingyi standing outside, calm and unruffled. He was waiting for him with a brilliant smile, showing off his matchless white teeth, “Ah, *shou shou*, good morning!”

Wang Guangning: “! ! !”

“Fuck, what kind of clothes are you wearing?” He stared frantically at the military jacket Zhang Lingyi was wearing.

With an expression of grievance, Zhang Lingyi waved his hand, “Ah, I didn't want to either. But I searched for a long time last night and found that I actually didn't have a jacket with large pockets. If there aren't big pockets, how can we hold our hands together in it? This is what I borrowed from my roommate!”

Zhang Lingyi looked down at his own large green jacket even though he was also very frustrated. Truth be told, last night when his simple and honest dorm mate had given him this jacket with a face of one giving away something they loved dearly, he was also left feeling a bit chaotic. However, he was confident that with his own incomparable temperament, he could absolutely bring out an attitude like a European or American top model.

But Wang Guangning's expression of grievance as if he would rather be dead was too exaggerated.

Wringing his hands, Wang Guangning said, "Although you don't have any clothes with large pockets, but I do. You could've just told me..."

"But I am the *gong*..." Zhang Lingyi was at a loss .

Wang Guangning glared at him.

"Fine!" Zhang Lingyi gave in, "Then you change into your coat with the big pockets and I'll go put on a different set of clothes."

After finishing speaking, he ran upstairs.

His dorm room was in the building as Wang Guangning, however, his was on the sixth floor while Wang Guangning's was on the fourth.

While waiting for Zhang Lingyi to change his clothes and come back down, Wang Guangning had also reluctantly put on his coat.

It was a double-breasted black fleece coat which even the elite were unable to look straight at.

"Yi?" Zhang Lingyi clicked his tongue, "Isn't this the legendary Czech *diaosi*?"

[1] : is a Chinese slang term which describes ordinary Chinese citizens who face struggles and hardships every day. (apparently also has other meanings- idiot, loser or douchebag depending on the context O.O)

“Get lost!” Wang Guangning directly used a book to pound at Zhang Lingyi’s head.

Smiling, Zhang Lingyi avoided it before immediately going over to him once again. Hooking his arm in Wang Guangning elbow in a very natural manner, he said, “Let’s go, *xiao gong* will take you to see the outside world.”

Although he said they were going to see the outside world, he actually ended up dragging Wang Guangning to a high-end commercial plaza to go shopping.

Zhang Lingyi walked amongst the expensively decorated sales counters, focusing on some of the flashy products. He glanced at jewellery, perfume and such, occasionally also asking for Wang Guangning’s opinion.

Wang Guangning gave a few perfunctory words and finally could not help but ask, “What exactly are you trying to buy?”

Holding a purple bottle of perfume, Zhang Lingyi replied, “It’s nearly my mother’s birthday so I want to buy a gift for her.”

Stunned, Wang Guangning said, “Then what does your mother like?”

“Expensive things.”

Wang Guangning was speechless, “Then you can just pick the most expensive thing and be done with it, right?”

“Of course not.” Zhang Lingyi said in disdain, “Don’t you know there’s no such as thing as most expensive, only more expensive? This young master’s wallet only had this much money, and I still need to leave some for New Year’s.”

“Then what are you going to do?”

“Of course I’m going to choose something at a medium price level, but gives the impression of being particularly expensive!” Zhang Lingyi said

while placing the perfume down. “I can’t buy things like perfume, my mother will know its origins simply by sniffing it.”

Looking at Zhang Lingyi’s behaviour as he was picking up things and his description of his mother’s interest in perfume, Wang Guangning suddenly thought of all the gossip in F University concerning Zhang Lingyi. Hitting his arm, he said, “Hey, I heard your family is the wealthiest in G city, is that true?”

Originally, he had only taken it as boring gossip. However, upon seeing Zhang Lingyi’s attitude, he was a bit uncertain.

Face twitching, Zhang Lingyi turned to him, “Please, don’t participate in this kind of boring gossip, alright? I also heard that you were a descendent of the late Qing dynasty nobles. Are rumours reliable? My family is just moderately affluent, but when my mother was young and beautiful, she was spoiled and praised so now she’s accustomed to it. She tends to compete with other people, so she wants the best of everything and ignores the rest.”

Wang Guangning inwardly sighed in relief. Fortunately he wasn’t one of the legendary rich second generation², otherwise...he supposed that their friendship would have quite a disparity compared to his own little family business.

[2] : is a Chinese term that refers to the children of the nouveau riche in China.

Wang Guangning didn’t care about comparing himself with Zhang Lingyi. Even during the time when they did not get along, Wang Guangning had never once thought of judging Zhang Lingyi’s personal character based on his family background.

Yet, now he did seem to care a bit about their respective backgrounds.

Fortunately...

Fortunately what, he also wasn’t clear.

After choosing for half a day, Zhang Lingyi finally selected a pair of high heels with slender platinum chains embedded with diamonds.

Wang Guangning stared at the chains and hesitated for a while. He finally couldn't resist asking, "Your mother likes this kind of style?" It felt more like something a young girl or businesswoman would like.

Zhang Lingyi's mother, had to be at least forty something, right?

Humming twice, Zhang Lingyi said, "Ah, yes. The style is very like that for young ladies, but I've already said my mother is very spoiled. If you dare mention her age to her, she'll twist off your ears!"

While speaking, he swiped his credit card to pay before pulling Wang Guangning away.

As they left the shopping centre, the two people shivered.

"So cold!" Zhang Lingyi rubbed his arms.

Wang Guangning silently tightened his coat.

"*Shou shou*, how can you do that?" Zhang Lingyi slanted a glare towards him, then extended his own hand and said, "Here!"

Wang Guangning: "? ?"

Seeing that Wang Guangning did not understand, Zhang Lingyi couldn't help but roll his eyes. Reaching out, he grabbed Wang Guangning's hand and placed both their hands in the pocket of his coat.

"We have to place our hands together in the pocket to keep warm. Hey, and we have to interlock all our fingers too!" Zhang Lingyi said while frowning. Exerting all his strength, Zhang Lingyi rummaged through the pocket to find Wang Guangning's hand, only to discover that it was tightly clenched.

The pockets of Wang Guangning's coat were actually not that big, so it became very crowded when the large hands of both men were suddenly squeezed in. Furthermore, Zhang Lingyi even kept on moving his hand

around in the pocket as if his life depended on it, causing Wang Guangning to burst into anger.

“Alright, enough.” Wang Guangning shouted impatiently, forcefully pulling out his own hand from the pocket. Then he proceeded to pull out Zhang Lingyi’s hand and fiercely interlocked their fingers before once again, forcefully stuffing their hands back into the pocket, “Done, let’s go.”

“Go go go.” Smiling mischievously, Zhang Lingyi walked forward.

In the narrow pockets of the coat, the two people’s fingers were tightly interlocked.

Both of them had lean figures, and their fingers were slender so the joints could be felt clearly.

Wang Guangning could distinctly feel the sensation of the bones in Zhang Lingyi’s fingers. They were hard, and the ridges were evident. The pocket itself did not possess any warmth, but his mood suddenly became rather complicated. His heart seemed to be restless, however, he was truly unable to comprehend why.

He suddenly felt as if there was something he was unable to speak out.

Wang Guangning’s fingers which were interlocked with Zhang Lingyi’s suddenly exerted strength and he squeezed hard. Instantly, Zhang Lingyi cried out in pain.

“Fuck, *shou shou*, are you trying to murder *xiao gong*?” Not willing to be outdone, he retaliated.

“Fuck, do you dare to use more strength?” Feeling pain, Wang Guangning then used even more force.

Thereupon, the ten fingers which were interlocked together to preserve warmth seemed to radiate warmth and gay love on the surface. However, the truth was the two people were actually squeezing each other’s fingers to death, neither willing to give way to the other.

This continued as they got onto the bus, sat through n number of stations and arrived at the front of the neighbourhood where Zhang Lingyi's home was in. Only then did they finally glare at the other fiercely and snort.

Wang Guangning said, "Let go of my hand."

Then the two of them pulled their hands out of the pocket, their knuckles already completely lacking strength as they drooped weakly.

"Fuck, this young master has been pained to death." Zhang Lingyi finally used one hand to lightly wrap the hand which had been squeezed, his entire face distorted, "Wang Guangning, you're too ruthless."

Wang Guangning wasn't much better off than him, but his bones were stronger so he could still endure. Staring coldly, he said, "Less bullshit, quickly lead the way."

The district where Zhang Lingyi's home was located was a well-known medium level neighbourhood in the centre of G city. It was a quiet place amidst all the noise and the district itself was quite new. The price of housing here was around thirty thousand, and while it was not very expensive, however the economic strength needed was above the average level in G city.

Wang Guangning's home was in S city, and it was also located in a well-known garden district. Compared to Zhang Lingyi's home, they were about the same.

Wang Guangning felt very comfortable knowing this.

Zhang Lingyi brought Wang Guangning all the way up to the 27th floor. His home had a standard three bedroom layout with two halls, and the river outside could be seen at the side of the balcony.

"Yi, how come there's no one?" Wang Guangning stared in puzzlement at the simply decorated but desolate home. Seeing as Zhang Lingyi had bought gifts for his mother, he had thought there would be someone here.

“Oh, my parents are working at another place in the country. They’re not usually at home so I’m often alone here in G city.” Zhang Lingyi said in passing as he threw the wrapped gift onto the table. Flinging the key, he turned into the hallway in front of the living room, “Didn’t you want to revise? Come with me to the study room.”

Zhang Lingyi’s study room was comfortable and warm. The entire one side of the wall was occupied by a white bookshelf and the walls were painted a cream colour, there were also wooden floorboards and multi-coloured foam sofas that seemed to allow one to sink right into. Finally, there was a French window overlooking a small balcony. At a glance, it gave people the urge to stay and never leave.

“Good³.” Tossing his book onto the desk, Wang Guangning quickly flew onto a round, light green sofa. Cheerfully, he said, “*Zhen*⁴ will stay here today. *Xiao Yizi*⁵, quickly come and serve *zhen*.”

[3] This was originally spoken in English by Wang Guangning.

[4] : imperial use of ‘I’, used by the Emperor.

[5] : [name] is the term used to identify an eunuch. So basically Wang Guangning is pretending to be the emperor and calling Zhang Lingyi his eunuch. Thank you [fanofnovels](#) > . <

It was such a sweet idea...but why are they still fighting 🙄🙄🙄

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 013

013

“Helping to rub and blow-dry each other’s hair and lie on the other’s leg while watching TV “

day ten | helping to rub and blow-dry each other’s hair, lying on each other’s leg while watching tv, and ordering the other to bring you food to eat



Although Zhang Lingyi was an idiot, his fine upbringing nevertheless allowed him to be a good host when a guest was staying over. There was usually no one living in the house so he couldn’t find any fruit, but he found a pile of snacks, biscuits, sweets and dried meat. He didn’t want to place them on the table since that would only take up space, so he directly heaped them all on the floor.

Zhang Lingyi was afraid that Wang Guangning would be cold as there was no heating in the south and the temperature indoors was quite low. Hence, he then found a fluffy blanket for Wang Guangning to wrap himself with.

As a result, when Zhang Lingyi walked into the study room after hurriedly finishing everything, he discovered that Wang Guangning had moved the low desk next to the French window. He had sunk into the sofa he was sitting in and was lazily leaning against the window. The blanket was bundled across his knees and there was a heavy pile of snacks on the ground.

It was obviously supposed to be a scene that would cause people to feel envy and hatred. However, when Zhang Lingyi’s eyes fell upon this, it

transformed into a scene of a fair little pig that was wrapped in a blanket and encircled by snacks. His expression was especially happy!

The only flaw in the otherwise perfect picture was that the little pig was too thin.

Two hands clutching his chest, Zhang Lingyi stared at the Wang little pig, lost in thought.

He was too immersed and completely didn't notice that he had been staring at the scene in front of him for a long time. Finally, Wang Guangning couldn't stand it any further and fiercely turned his head, "Zhang Lingyi! Have you seen enough?"

Zhang Lingyi only laughed and eagerly ran over, stubbornly wanting to be by Wang Guangning's side.

After a while.

"*Shou shou*, I want to eat beef jerky. Ah—" Zhang Lingyi read English while opening his mouth wide, waiting for Wang Guangning to feed him.

Pursing his lips, Wang Guangning stripped a small piece of beef jerky and threw it into Zhang Lingyi's mouth.

Again, after a while.

"*Shou shou*, I want to eat biscuits. Ah—"

Did Zhang Lingyi become addicted to playing this?

Narrowing his eyes impatiently, Wang Guangning dropped something into his mouth.

"Ah—*pei¹*—*ke ke ke²*—" Zhang Lingyi had chewed a few times only to find that something was not quite right. Face changing colour, he quickly spat it out as he choked to the point that he was flushing, "What did you give me to eat?"

[1] : sound of Zhang Lingyi spitting the food out.

[2] : coughing noises.

The green dots that he had spat onto the tissue looked particularly suspicious.

Smiling sinisterly, Wang Guangning replied, “Wasabi.”

He shook the bag of wasabi peanuts that was in his hand. As it turned out, he had peeled off the outer layer of wasabi on the peanut. Wang Guangning had eaten the peanut himself, then thrown all the peeled off wasabi into Zhang Lingyi’s mouth.

Tearing up, Zhang Lingyi picked up a glass of water and drank a big gulp, “*Shou shou*, how can you do this.”

Wang Guangning said coldly, “Can you go find another place to stay and stop annoying me?” He estimated that if he continued staying in the same room as Zhang Lingyi, he wouldn’t be able to read a single book even in half a day.

Zhang Lingyi finally realised his mistake, however, he refused to move out of the study and said brazenly, “*Shou shou*, I’ll go to a corner. I guarantee I won’t annoy you.”

After finishing speaking, he really did grab his books and moved compliantly to the corner of the room opposite Wang Guangning. With a pitiful expression on his face, Zhang Lingyi looked towards Wang Guangning and blinked his eyes.

Wang Guangning snorted then ignored him.

Then the two finally settled down for a while.

For dinner that night, Zhang Lingyi called for takeaway and Wang Guangning also stayed behind since there was no one else apart from them

present. Wang Guangning didn't object as the environment here was much more suitable for revising than at the campus so he agreed to stay.

After dinner, Zhang Lingyi took out a set of his own pyjamas and a new pair of underwear to give to Wang Guangning to use after he had showered. While Wang Guangning was in the bathroom, he went outside to throw away their rubbish and then came back inside to clean up the guest room for Wang Guangning.

Just as he finished cleaning up the guest room, Wang Guangning also finished showering. Wang Guangning walked out from the bathroom with his hair wet, water dripping onto the floor. While rubbing his hair, he said, "Zhang Lingyi, I've finished showering. You can go now."

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's height were quite similar so the pyjamas Zhang Lingyi gave him fit very well. Walking leisurely into the living room, Wang Guangning turned on the TV. He had read for an entire afternoon so he needed to have a rest.

However, Zhang Lingyi did not go to have a shower. Eyes bright, he ran eagerly into the master bedroom then came out a while later. Running eagerly back out with an object in his hand, he said, " *Shou shou*, since there is such a lovely romantic surrounding and it is rare that we are both alone in a room, we must continue our great cause of pretending to be gay!"

The hand that Wang Guangning was using to rub his hair shook and he lifted his head, only to find Zhang Lingyi holding a hair dryer with his eyes glittering as he stared at Wang Guangning's...wet hair. It was only then that Wang Guangning recalled one of the things that couples must do together...

Help each other to rub and blow-dry their hair, lie on each other's leg while watching TV, and order the other to feed you food.

Ah, this cliff he had been forced against was a premeditated plan by Zhang Lingyi!

Feeling as if he had been completely defeated by the other, Wang Guangning reluctantly put down the towel in his hand. Nodding stiffly with

a tragic expression, he said, “Then come over.”

Cheering, Zhang Lingyi plugged the hair dryer into the power source. Recalling the movements of the brothers at the hair salon, he adopted their posture while positioning the air outlet at Wang Guangning’s hair.

Wang Guangning hadn’t trimmed his hair in a while so it was slightly long, and neither soft nor coarse. Even though Zhang Lingyi fiddled deliberately for a long time, there was truly not much he could do with a man’s hair. Above all, Wang Guangning’s hair style was so concise and not even a little bit fancy so when he blow-dried it, there was no particular sense of accomplishment.

Furthermore, Wang Guangning was very evidently impatient.

“Zhang Lingyi, do you dare to worsen your technique further? Stop blow-drying my eyes...”

“Zhang Lingyi, are you trying to take this opportunity to burn off my hair? ! !”

Fortunately, it quickly blown dry.

As soon as his hair was dry, Wang Guangning decisively grabbed the hair dryer from Zhang Lingyi’s hands, “Alright, alright. You should quickly go and shower.”

Zhang Lingyi obviously had found it immensely enjoyable and he unwillingly curled his lips, not wanting to give up, “*Shou shou*, wait for me. I’ll go and wash my hair for you to blow.”

Zhang Lingyi did exactly what he said he would and ran out of the bathroom after his shower, his hair still wet as he said excitedly, “*Shou shou*, quickly blow-dry my hair.”

Wang Guangning was speechless as he stared at Zhang Lingyi’s hair which was continuously dripping water. In the end, he couldn’t restrain himself from rolling his eyes, “Zhang Lingyi, can you be an even bigger idiot?”

Even though Wang Guangning said that, he still pulled Zhang Lingyi to sit on the sofa. Grabbing a towel, he used it to rub Zhang Lingyi's hair so that water didn't drip anymore.

Zhang Lingyi was still feeling a bit unwilling, "Ah, *shou shou*, don't rub my hair too much. Otherwise, when you blow-dry it later, it'll dry very fast."

Unable to stand it any longer, Wang Guangning leaned over and pulled the collar of his pyjamas, "Don't you see that you've made your clothes wet?"

Zhang Lingyi shrugged indifferently, "Don't worry. It will my clothes' honour to respectfully sacrifice itself for our great cause of being gay!"

Wang Guangning stared at the tragic collar and decided to give up trying to communicate with Zhang Lingyi.

Wang Guangning technique of blow-drying hair was a bit better compared to Zhang Lingyi. At least, he didn't move the hair dryer too close and make people feel like their hair was being burned, nor did he blow directly at other people's eyes or ears. However, he spent quite a long time using the blow-dryer since he also had to dry Zhang Lingyi's collar.

When Wang Guangning had finally finished, Zhang Lingyi even tried to curry to favour by showing deference, "*Shou shou*, you blow really well. I think you can go to a hair salon and get a part time job and blow-dry people's hair professionally."

Wang Guangning used the hair dryer to knock his head, "Get lost, go and put everything back."

Zhang Lingyi cheerfully took the hair dryer to put it back in its originally place. When he came back, he saw Wang Guangning sitting on the sofa with the remote control in his hand, constantly changing the stations.

"*Shou shou*, I'm coming!" Zhang Lingyi ran over to the sofa but then tripped, his head falling directly on Wang Guangning's thigh.

Wang Guangning had never been so close to anyone and the muscles on his thigh trembled as he subconsciously kicked Zhang Lingyi away.

“Ah——” Zhang Lingyi yelled, his head nearly falling directly onto the ground. Fortunately, his body was still half on the sofa so his head didn’t completely reach the floor. Since it was like this, he had also been frightened and his face was deathly pale.

Wang Guangning was also shocked and he quickly helped Zhang Lingyi lift his head back onto the sofa. Gasping for breath, Zhang Lingyi climbed up, feeling as if he had been given a new lease on life. With an expression of having been terrified out of his wits, Zhang Lingyi said, “*Shou shou*, are you trying to kill me?”

Wang Guangning was also a bit embarrassed, but he couldn’t help but feel some anger, “Who told you to suddenly lie on my thigh?”

Hearing this, Zhang Lingyi adopted an expression of grievance, “If I don’t lie on your thigh, then our task for today won’t be completed.”

After saying this, he seemed to realise something and he asked with wide eyes, “Or is it that you want to lie on my thigh, *shou shou*?”

Wang Guangning felt as if there was blood stuck in his throat, unable to be spat out. Angrily sitting back down, he stared at the TV screen and ignored him.

Zhang Lingyi hesitantly glanced at Wang Guangning’s black face, not understanding what he did to make the other so furious.

He sighed. Ah, Wang Guangning had a really bad temper!

Zhang Lingyi silently calculated in his heart. If he couldn’t achieve his plan, then should he try coaxing Wang Guangning?

Then he saw Wang Guangning staring at him from the corner of his eye. His ears were slightly red and he spoke with his voice stifled, “Still not lying down?”

Eyes brightening, Zhang Lingyi felt as if he had resurrected and all his blood had been replenished. In a particularly bashful manner, he laid down on Wang Guangning's thigh, not forgetting to curry favour, "*Shou shou*, your thigh is really comfortable..."

"Lie down quietly and watch TV, don't speak so much nonsense." Wang Guangning's thigh was slightly stiff and even the actions of his hands weren't so nimble as he randomly switched channels, "Hey, what do you want to watch?"

Zhang Lingyi was lying down sideways on Wang Guangning's thigh and he said in a depressed voice, "Ah, I've discovered that watching TV in this position is really uncomfortable!"

Wang Guangning sneered, "Bullshit, how can it not be comfortable when lying down and watching TV." Who told you to treat that idiotic guide as a canonical text.

Pursing his lips, Zhang Lingyi once again began to command Wang Guangning, "*Shou shou*, I want to eat snacks. You go and get it."

Wang Guangning: "....."

Seeing that Wang Guangning did not move, Zhang Lingyi was dissatisfied, "*Shou shou*, you're not following that guide."

Wang Guangning finally couldn't help but violently get up and grab the checked pillow next to him and wrap it around Zhang Lingyi's head, "You idiot! Enough is enough!"

Zhang Lingyi's limbs immediately responded as he tried to struggle for forgiveness.

Hence, the evening ended like this, amidst the fooling and messing around.

The next morning, the two once again revised their books for a while before eating lunch and hurrying back to school.

Taking into account that the library and self-study hall probably had no seats left, Wang Guangning returned directly back to his dormitory.

At the end of the semester, their dormitory was always quiet. Therefore, he didn't think that there would even be anyone inside.

He absolutely hadn't thought, that the person inside would actually be...

Wang Guangning's character was quite good, so he interacted just fine with the other dorm mates. Also, his relationship with Sun Siyang was even better as they were close friends.

However, this person called Li Sihong had always inexplicably been on disagreeable terms with Wang Guangning. Usually, he would be quite indifferent to him, except for when sleeping at night which he would find an excuse to leave the dorm if Wang Guangning was present.

Although Wang Guangning was baffled, but since the other didn't try to attack him, he didn't take it to heart. The main reason though, was that they didn't really have any chances to communicate anyway.

Therefore, Wang Guangning also had not thought he would one day see Li Sihong...masturbating.

He was sitting on his chair facing his computer screen, with his body arching back and an unusual flush across his face. He would gasp for breath intermittently while unceasingly moving his right hand up and down.

Wang Guangning's first thought turned out to be—

Wow, he didn't expect that cold as frost Li classmate would have such a...

He coughed...such an intoxicated expression.

En, Li classmate's posture was very standard. It seemed that he must have practiced often to be so familiar.

Alas, he was unfortunately unable to see the real thing so he had no way of accurately making a judgement on Li classmate's size.

As the other reached for the light, several thoughts flashed through Wang Guangning's heart as he wondered whether or not he should retreat quietly.

However, Li Sihong had also discovered him.

His expression which had originally been deeply engrossed in lust instantly changed to shock. His hands also halted their actions, and his eyes which had always shelf such a lack of regard also reflected a manner of being at a complete loss.

Originally, Wang Guangning thought that men being self-reliant was normal matter. He had also accidentally stumbled on Sun Siyang doing this several times, however, everyone had just laughed and passed on.

Therefore, upon seeing Li Sihong revealing such a wounded expression, Wang Guangning was also a bit surprised and he said in embarrassment, "Ah, that, you continue."

And then, he fled the dormitory, not daring to look at Li Sihong's face.

He wandered aimlessly around the campus; it was near the end of the term so everyone was inside, hence why the university grounds were absolutely empty. The handsome Wang *xiao cao* walked lifelessly around for a half a day before finally recovering.

Ah, god. What was all this about?

Wang Guangning stared speechlessly at the heavens.

He had always thought Li Sihong disliked him, to the point of that he disappeared whenever Wang Guangning was present in their dorm.

Then how come just then, he saw his own picture on Li Sihong's computer?

That's right. Although it was only a brief glance, when Li Sihong turned his head back to reach for the light, Wang Guangning had indeed seen a picture of himself during the freshmen military training on the other's computer.

Why was Li Sihong masturbating to a picture of him?

Could it be that the reason Li Sihong had always been so cold to him before was because he was unable to open his mouth and speak due to the feeling in his heart?

Wang Guangning couldn't help but shiver.

Although he always had great confidence in his charm, that was limited to his female friends!

He felt that he had received an internal injury.

Σ(O_O;) That was...unexpected...

Hope you all enjoy ~

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 014

014

“You brazen fellow, quickly let go of my *shou shou*“

day eleven | encourage each other when they're feeling unwell or lost



Zhang Lingyi thought that there was something not quite right with Wang Guangning today.

He knew that despite having a high intelligence, Wang Guangning was not a genius. Instead, he was like the God of Studying; basically, if he wanted to be a top student, he would strive for it with great effort.

Therefore, Wang Guangning had always been more positive during the revision period near the end of the term.

Yet, today Wang Guangning had actually rejected his offer to go to the library together. There was indeed something not quite right.

Hence, for the first time ever, Zhang Lingyi woke up early and ran over to Wang Guangning's dormitory. In the end, he received a piece of shocking news from Sun Siyang.

Wang Guangning did not return to the dormitory last night at all!

When Wang Guangning and himself arrived back at campus yesterday, they had obviously parted below the stairs in the dormitory building. Could it be that Wang Guangning left again once they had separated ways?

Zhang Lingyi became very confused.

He was a straight-forward person, so since he harboured doubt in his heart, Zhang Lingyi directly called the other person.

Wang Guangning picked up the call.

“*Shou shou*, Sun Siyang said you didn’t return to the dormitory last night, where did you go?”

Wang Guangning’s voice hinted at exhaustion and he gave an irrelevant answer, “I’m fine, you don’t need to worry.”

He sneezed after saying the last word then quickly hung up the phone call.

Still feeling uneasy in his heart, Zhang Lingyi once again found Sun Siyang to ask, “When Wang Guangning’s mood is unwell, where does he go?”

Su Siyang was unable to fathom anything, how come Zhang Lingyi’s words right now sounded like he cared about Wang Guangning?

Fuck, this was unscientific!

Although he was inwardly feeling extremely curious, the colour of Zhang Lingyi’s face was not too good so Sun Siyang didn’t inquire any further and told the other truthfully, “He would usually go to the self-study hall. If he’s not at the self-study hall, then it might be Moon Lake.”

In actuality, Sun Siyang himself was not very certain when he spoke those words. The main point was, he had rarely seen Wang Guangning’s mood not good in the three years he had known him. Usually during this period of revision time before the final exam, every one’s state of mind was quite irritable. Wang Guangning would often bury himself in the self-study hall, frantically reviewing.

There was only once when Wang Guangning’s mood was genuinely not good. When the forums on F Xing Ren held a voting competition for the best sweetheart in F University, Wang Guangning had lost by one vote to Zhang Lingyi. He didn’t return to the dorm for that entire night; and it was

only afterwards that Sun Siyang found out Wang Guangning had gone to Moon lake to watch the stars.

Indeed, just like a dilettante.

The distance between the self-study hall in F University and Moon lake was considerably far. In fact, with Zhang Lingyi's intelligence, if he just thought about how Wang Guangning's sneeze over the phone had carried some vibration, then it was most likely that Wang Guangning was at Moon Lake and had caught a cold. However, the normally cool-headed Zhang *xiao cao* had in this moment, become worried to the point his mind was in disarray. As a result, he subconsciously dashed towards the self-study hall.

The students were very cruel near the end of the term, with all the seats in the self-study hall completely filled so early in the morning. Zhang Lingyi carefully scanned the entire hall for Wang Guangning but didn't see him, so he then sprinted towards Moon lake without stopping.

Zhang Lingyi finally arrived after great difficulty; the exercise causing him to gasp for breath repeatedly. Not waiting for his breath to catch, Zhang Lingyi once again began to scan for Wang Guangning's figure along the shore of the lake.

Moon Lake was a quite famous lake of F University, and it covered a substantial amount of area. Only after scouring half the lake did Zhang Lingyi finally see Wang Guangning lying in a shape on the grass by the shore.

At this moment, the first glimmer of dawn appeared at the horizon, suffusing the skies with the bright light. The morning wind carried with it the chill of winter, yet Wang Guangning was just wearing his coat and lying on the ground. However, that was not enough for a winter night.

Zhang Lingyi recalled his sneeze over the phone and his brows wrinkled subconsciously.

From afar, Zhang Lingyi could see the tiredness on his face, probably from not having slept well last night. It seemed that at this moment, he was

finally unable to withstand his sleepiness and had closed his eyes.

Fortunately nothing unexpected had happened.

Zhang Lingyi sighed in relief and was just about to head over when he saw a person appear seemingly out of nowhere, walking towards Wang Guangning.

He stared at the other man and realised that it turned out to be Wang Guangning's dormmate, Li Sihong.

How come Li Sihong came here?

Zhang Lingyi was puzzled and he subconsciously stopped, waiting to see what would next.

Wang Guangning woke up just as Li Sihong was approaching.

He didn't think that Li Sihong would actually appear here and was suddenly a little embarrassed. Sitting up, he spoke stiffly, "Hi¹."

[1] Originally spoken in English.

Li Sihong crouched in front of him with a slightly unnatural expression on his face. He pondered for a long time then said, "I'm sorry."

Wang Guangning hurriedly waved his hand, "Don't worry, don't worry. You don't need to apologise to me."

All men would have the urge to masturbate, that wasn't such a big deal.

At least, as long as you don't use my picture while doing so again in the future.

Wang Guangning sweated silently.

Upon facing Wang Guangning's embarrassed expression, but not identifying any disgust or prejudice, Li Sihong was greatly relieved. There was another long silence, before he gathered up his courage and said, "You have already seen last night, so I don't need to hide this any longer. The truth is, that I am gay."

As he finally spoke the secret buried in his heart to the person he liked, Li Sihong sighed in relief. Yet, he also felt a kind of tenseness that he was unable to express.

He didn't know how Wang Guangning would react, but as long as he didn't hate him and was still willing to be friends, then Li Sihong would be contented.

When he first entered the university, he fell in love at first sight with Wang Guangning's outstanding temperament. However, he also knew that Wang Guangning was straight. As he was afraid to be discriminated against for holding these feelings that were not readily accepted by society, he could only hide them silently in his heart. In order not to let them to be found out, Li Sihong deliberately acted as if he did not like Wang Guangning, when it was actually just that he was afraid of exposing his feelings if they interacted too much.

Today, the balloon had been punctured and everything had burst out as he released his true sentiments. No matter what the result was, Li Sihong believed he would not feel any regret.

Wang Guangning didn't expect that Li Sihong was here to confess to him and couldn't help but freeze in stupefaction. It was only due to his fine upbringing that he quickly recovered and showed an understanding smile, "Everyone has their own choices, you don't have to be too concerned with the beliefs of others."

The underlying meaning was: if you want to be gay then be gay, you don't have to care about my opinion.

However, the way Li Sihong understood his words deviated from this. He regarded the words spoken by Wang Guangning as his agreement, and his

eyes suddenly filled with gratitude and tenderness.

Upon seeing this, Wang Guangning felt his body erupt fiercely with goosebumps.

“Then, are you willing to...accept me?” Li Sihong spoke cautiously, yet the light in his eyes were enough to blind Wang Guangning.

Wang Guangning froze, how could Li Sihong say such terrifying words?

The nerves in his brain twitched violently, yet Wang Guangning did not show his feelings of onto his face. Instead, he smiled faintly, “I apologise, but I like girls.”

Li Sihong’s eyes momentarily turned bleak and he did not speak for a long time.

“Then...I’ll leave first.” Wang Guangning felt that he was simply unable to look directly at Li Sihong. As the other was not moving, he thought that he should take action instead. As he spoke, he prepared to get up.

“Don’t go.” Li Sihong suddenly shouted, then pounced onto Wang Guangning with lightning speed. He was tall and quite sturdy, so he caused the exhausted Wang Guangning who had not slept for the entire night to fall onto the ground.

“Guangning, I really do like you.” Li Sihong’s eyes stared at him as they flushed red, “Please give me a chance, I will definitely treat you well.”

Wang Guangning saw stars and he was temporarily unable to react as a result of being pushed to the ground. Then, he suddenly exploded in anger, he had actually been pressed under a man! Both hands fiercely pushing Li Sihong away, he said, “Fuck, leave me alone.”

Wang Guangning was originally quite tall as well and he even had four sexy abdominal muscles, therefore his strength wasn’t small. Regrettably, Li Sihong had also launched a ruthless attack, regardless of whether Wang

Guangning approved. For a moment, Wang Guangning was unable to push him away.

“Guangning, I am serious. Please give me a chance.”

“Give your sister!” Being pressed upon, Wang Guangning became impatient and he suddenly punched out. His fist landed directly on Li Sihong’s nose and two lines of blood flowed down from his nose, dripping onto Wang Guangning’s coat.

Li Sihong was initially dizzy after being hit, then the beast inside him awoke, stirred by the smell of blood. His eyes became red and the expression with which he looked at Wang Guangning also changed to something more dangerous.

“Guangning, you will accept me.” Li Sihong’s voice was no longer hysteric, however his tone dropped, causing Wang Guangning to involuntarily shudder.

“Fuck, you pervert! Even if we have to perish together, *laozi* will not let you touch me.” As soon as he spoke, Wang Guangning prepared to fight back.

Zhang Lingyi stared at them from a distance, watching everything plummet down. How come Li Sihong had pushed Wang Guangning onto the ground and was even rubbing his head in Wang Guangning’s neck? Wasn’t this like the scenes on TV that were often shown of young women being pressed down and had lewd things done to them?

Unable to restrain himself any further, Zhang Lingyi bolted wildly towards them.

“You brazen fellow, quickly let go of my *shou shou*!”

Wang Guangning and Li Sihong who were struggling with each other involuntarily halted their actions, shocked by Zhang Lingyi’s voice and the words he spoke. Li Sihong even lifted up his head to look at Zhang Lingyi, only to meet with Zhang Lingyi’s foot and be kicked away.

“Ah——” Li Sihong rolled over to the side as a result of the kick, unable to get up from the ground because of the pain.

“*Shou shou*, are you alright?” Zhang Lingyi squatted down by Wang Guangning’s side and held onto his shoulder, supporting the other as he stood up. He felt particularly like as if he was the main actor in an idol drama.

He really was a brilliant *xiao gong*; a hero who saved the damsel in distress!

As a result of Zhang Lingyi’s words, Wang Guangning pursed his lips and said, “How come you’re here? I could have solved this myself.”

The words he spoke were not just him pretending to be brave. Even though Li Sihong was powerful, however Wang Guangning was also a member of the basketball team. If they were really to go at it, then at the most they would both be hurt. Wang Guangning certainly would not be easy to take advantage of.

Yet, Zhang Lingyi at this moment had completely immersed himself in his role of being the main actor of an idol drama. Giving a domineering and mighty stare at Li Sihong, he said, “Li Sihong, you shameless fellow. You even dared to lay a hand on our *shou shou*? Are you tired of living?”

Li Sihong had just turned over with great difficulty and staggered up, only to be shocked by Zhang Lingyi’s words.

Our *shou shou*?

What was this situation?

With a complicated gaze, he looked at Zhang Lingyi’s...hand that was on Wang Guangning’s shoulder.

“You two...” Li Sihong’s face changed unpredictably. Everything he saw in front of him was subverting all he knew, however, his subconscious told him that this was impossible.

On the first day of university, he saw that Wang Guangning was a straight man. Afterwards, he had pursued Yu Haining, confirming this fact. And even just then, he had said he liked girls...

This should all just be a misunderstanding.

But then why would Zhang Lingyi appear at this moment and even help Wang Guangning? Were they both not the famous pair who never got along?

Wang Guangning looked at Li Sihong's eyes and knew that he had misunderstood. He wanted to open his mouth and explain, but expectedly Zhang Lingyi took the lead. Hugging him tightly, Zhang Lingyi lifted his head in a domineering manner and said, "Yes, Guangning and I are a gay couple. Do you have any objections?"

In some cases, when a confession was too unbelievable, it made others speechless.

At this moment, Li Sihong was unable to speak.

Wang Guangning's entire face was flushed red—he was ashamed! *You're thinking too much, of course he was actually red because of anger.*

Zhang Lingyi was definitely here to bring chaos to the world!

As if he was afraid that he hadn't brought enough chaos, he once again added oil to the fire, "Li Sihong, the only one suitable for Wang Guangning in F University is me. Don't even think about trying to chase after him, you're not worthy². If there's nothing else, then quickly leave.³"

[2] : translates directly to 'a toad wishing to eat swan meat', which means to crave for what one is not worthy of.

[3] : literally translates to 'go wash up and sleep', however its meaning is similar to something like: 'there's nothing left that should concern us and there's nothing we can change, so we can leave.' Depending on the context, the meaning can vary quite a bit. In this scenario, Zhang

Lingyi is basically asking Li Sihong to just leave since there's nothing else that concerns him.

Having the plot change so much, Li Sihong was unable to accept it. Flushing from being ridiculed by Zhang Lingyi, Li Sihong turned to Wang Guangning, his heart stilling unwilling, "Guangning, you and him..."

Wang Guangning knew that he had already jumped in the Yellow River and could not be washed clean; therefore, he decided to give up any hope and acted reckless⁴.

[4] : the literal translation is 'to smash a pot to pieces just because it's cracked'.

Rolling his eyes, he said, "Correct, I am together with Zhang Lingyi."

Looking at Li Sihong's expression as if he had swallowed a fly, Wang Guangning unkindly felt a faint feeling of being refreshed.

Ah, this was the feeling of retaliating against society!

Li Sihong still didn't believe him, "Didn't you say you like girls though?"

Seeing that he still did not seem to be giving up, Zhang Lingyi's voice soured, "Could it be that you still can't tell that Guangning just doesn't want to hurt you? Or could it be you just want him to tell you directly that you're too ugly for him?"

"Enough!" Wang Guangning realised that Zhang Lingyi's words were becoming more outrageous the more he spoke and quickly stopped him from continuing.

However, it was already impossible to save Li Sihong's heart which had shattered like glass.

Li Sihong stared at the two who had completely confirmed their status as a couple and did not say anything for a period of time.

Eventually, he just turned around and walked away, step after step.

Watching Li Sihong moving further away, Wang Guangning sighed in relief. Then he scolded Zhang Lingyi and said, “In the future, don’t speak such nonsense.”

Zhang Lingyi gazed indifferently up at the sky, “Ah, when did I speak nonsense? It’s true that we are currently a gay couple~”

Wang Guangning was too tired to argue such with Zhang Lingyi on such boring matters and he yawned while asking, “How come you came here?”

Zhang Lingyi didn’t answer the question and instead moved closer to him, “Was Li Sihong the reason you didn’t go to back to the dorm and sleep?”

Wang Guangning pursed his lips, suddenly showing an expression of heartlessness, “I just suddenly wanted to watch the stars, alright? The stars at Moon Lake at very beautiful.”

Zhang Lingyi’s lips twitched, “Well, I’m not that fresh⁵.”

[5] : has several meanings, but it basically refers to teenagers or young adults who try to appear stylish or artistic.

This was too ironic!

Wang Guangning was keenly aware that Zhang Lingyi was mocking him so he turned around and directed a harsh glare at the other, “You are fresh, your whole is family fresh!”

It was only upon seeing that Wang Guangning was lively again that he finally stopped being worried. Patting him on the shoulder, Zhang Lingyi said, “Actually, I think that even though Li Sihong’s looks aren’t much, but being liked by him is an acknowledgement to your charms. You don’t have to be so annoyed.”

Zhang Lingyi’s words were definitely belittling Li Sihong. In truth, Li Sihong’s features were quite good. However, Zhang idiot was used to comparing others using himself and Wang Guangning as the standard. So in

his eyes, there was no other handsome male student at F University except for Wang Guangning.

Giving a stretch, Wang Guangning said, “I wasn’t annoyed because of this.”

Zhang Lingyi had never comforted someone before, so he didn’t know what else to say. In the end, he could only pat his shoulder again, said, “If you ever see Li Sihong again, just walk away. After all, he is still once one of your suitors. As long as something like before doesn’t happen again, then it’s fine.”

Wang Guangning shot him a look of disdain, “The one who laid a heavy hand just then was you!”

Zhang Lingyi shamelessly replied, “I did that for you.”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

No wonder the saying that shameless people were invincible was true!

Even though the words Zhang Lingyi spoke were shameless, his eyes were scanning Wang Guangning’s slightly pale face. His right hand was hesitating indecisively at the buttons of his jacket. Ultimately, he decided that taking off his jacket and giving it to Wang Guangning would seem as if he was feminising and belittling the other.

Hence, in the end he just dragged Wang Guangning by the arm and said, “Alright, alright. Go back and sleep.”

The author has something to say: Small Theatre

Zhang Lingyi: You brazen fellow, quickly let go of my *shou shou*!

Wang Guangning: You’re the one who’s my *shou shou*!

Zhang Lingyi:Well, at any rate.....you brazen fellow, quickly let go of my *xiao gong gong*!”

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 015

015

“Every devoted *gong* must unconditionally forgive their proud *shou*!”

***day twelve | secretly buying the things that the other wants to purchase
but does not dare to***



After this battle, Wang Guangning's vigour was greatly devoured. He originally wanted to go back to his dormitory to have a good sleep, but upon entering the room he was once again reminded of a certain disharmonious scene from last night. Hence, he hesitated to go in.

Zhang Lingyi saw his hesitation and realised the reason after thinking deeply about it. Thus, he magnanimously patted Wang Guangning's shoulder and said, “*Shou shou*, since we're a gay couple; as your *xiao gong*, I sincerely invite you to sleep in my bed at my dormitory.”

The corner of Wang Guangning's mouth couldn't help but twitch. Although he knew that Zhang Lingyi had good intentions, but these words somehow sounded quite awkward!

But now, anywhere was better than staying at this dormitory so he followed Zhang Lingyi to his dorm after elbowing him.

Regarding Zhang Lingyi's bed, Wang Guangning had already slept in it once that time when they watched the movie together. Therefore, he was very familiar with it and took off his coat then climbed into the bed directly.

Zhang Lingyi sat below and read his textbooks.

Zhang *xiao cao* originally was not a very diligent person, so once he started reading, many of his bad habits were exposed.

For example, he played on his phone, graffitied in his book, looked around aimlessly and even daydreamed. Then he saw that Wang Guangning's coat which was hanging in the closet...had blood on the collar.

Wang Guangning and him both placed heavy importance on their presentation, so it was impossible that those stains were caused by him. It must've been left behind by Li Sihong just then.

Zhang Lingyi recalled how Li Sihong had been bleeding from his nose and wrinkled his brows in revulsion. Then he lifted his head and glanced up at the bed.

Wang Guangning was indeed quite tired and had fallen into a deep sleep. Gently picking up the coat, Zhang Lingyi carried it to the balcony. Proceeding to fill up a basin with water, he then began to wash the coat.

These kind of coats should have originally just been thrown into the washing machine, but Zhang Lingyi was afraid that the washing machine would be noisy and end up waking Wang Guangning. Hence, the Zhang *xiao cao* who normally did not even bother to wash his own clothes started washing Wang Guangning's coat. It was as if this was caused by the work of demons or gods¹.

[1] : unexplained event crying out for a supernatural explanation; a curious coincidence.

While washing the coat, Zhang Lingyi thought that he himself must have been possessed by some strange thing to be doing this.

Wang Guangning slept heavily and only woke up when it was already in the evening. Ready and waiting, Zhang Lingyi said, "*Shou shou*, you've finally woken up. Quickly go and freshen up then we'll go to eat."

Wang Guangning was still half-asleep so he was quite confused. However, he hadn't eaten for the entire day so he was truly very hungry. He got out of bed to put on his coat, only to find Zhang Lingyi handing his own jacket over to him instead, "I've already washed your coat, it's drying outside so wear mine for now."

Wang Guangning paused, "You washed my coat for me?"

Zhang Lingyi shrugged, "Wasn't your coat stained by blood? It was really dirty."

Wang Guangning was silent. Of course he knew that his coat had been stained a little by Li Sihong's blood. He just hadn't expected that Zhang Lingyi would actually wash it for him.

Speaking of this, ever since their idiotic 'agreement' was set up by Zhang Lingyi, the two of them had continuously clashed. On the surface, it seemed that he had compromised with a lack of better options. However, in actuality, apart from persisting stubbornly with their gay policy, Zhang Lingyi had yielded to him more and more throughout their interactions.

In his heart, Wang Guangning felt a bit complicated.

Prior to being 'gay', he and Zhang Lingyi could definitely be described as being incompatible like fire and water.

Although their rivalry seemed to be quite unfathomable, but in reality, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's competitions with each other did look like that.

He had once thought that their rivalry would continue until the day they graduated; he had never thought that there would be a day that Zhang Lingyi would wash his coat for him.

Therefore, life would always be beyond our expectations.

Wang Guangning sighed quietly then accepted the jacket from Zhang Lingyi.

The two people ate some fried noodles from a stall in the streets near the campus then went to study together in the self-study hall afterwards.

Zhang Lingyi had wanted to ask Wang Guangning to continue sleeping in his dorm for the night, but Wang Guangning directly rejected him.

After all, he couldn't always stay in Zhang Lingyi's dorm.

In the end, Wang Guangning returned to his own dorm, however Zhang Lingyi urged him repeatedly that if Li Sihong dared to do anything to him, he must loudly shout for help. Zhang Lingyi would then be like Superman and instantly put on his red underwear to fly over and save him.

Wang Guangning was thunderstruck to the point of death and directly ignored him.

It turned out that Li Sihong's face was thinner than they imagined and he had soon moved out, causing Wang Guangning to sigh in relief.

If Li Sihong had not moved out, then Wang Guangning would have found an excuse to instead.

The following day was a Monday and Wang Guangning had a lecture he needed to attend to draw key points from. Early in the morning, he left to go to the classroom with Sun Siyang.

For the entire time, Sun Siyang dawdled and did not say anything.

Wang Guangning waited for half a day, but Sun Siyang still did not manage to find the right words to express himself. Unable to endure any longer, he directly questioned, "Exactly what do you want to say?"

Seeing Wang Guangning speak first, Sun Siyang knew that if he hesitated any more it would seem too exaggerated so he asked carefully, "Yesterday, Zhang Lingyi came to find you early in the morning..."

"En, I know."

“Did he come to find you because he wanted to have a fight?” Apart from fighting, Sun Siyang could not think of any other reason Zhang Lingyi would go and find Wang Guangning for.

“.....” How did he come to such a formidable conclusion?

Noticing that Wang Guangning was silent, Sun Siyang thought he was confirming it, thus revealed an expression of fear, “Well, even though Zhang Lingyi is not very good as a person, you haven’t reached the point that you need to fight with him, right?”

If it was before and Wang Guangning had heard people say Zhang Lingyi wasn’t much, he would have felt so refreshed to the point of having an internal injury. However, he now felt a faint discontent and replied in a sour tone, “You’re thinking too much. He was only looking for me to go and self-study together.”

Sun Siyang nearly choked to death and replied with an expression of extreme shock, “You self-study with him?” This was more horrifying than the two of them killing themselves together.

Wang Guangning glanced at him, “We’ve already shaken hands and made peace!”

Sun Siyang: “.....”

The rest of the journey was spent in silence.

Wang Guangning felt that there was no need to explain. Although Sun Siyang was considerate and wanted to thoroughly understand, however he was helpless and was unable to ask. Obviously a few days ago Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were irreconcilable adversaries and had even duelled at the welcoming party. Yet, now they were shaking hands and making peace with each other? The world was changing too fast!

He simple could not keep up to pace with Wang Guangning, alright?

The path of being the dormitory roommate of the campus *xiao cao* was filled with tears of blood².

[2] : symbol of extreme suffering; blood and tears

Sun Siyang silently wiped his face.

As they were here to revise the main points of the subject, every one listened very seriously during the lecture. The teacher was influenced by the students' high spirits and was excited to the point that they nearly didn't review the entire textbook.

Sun Siyang had taken notes until his face was dripping with tears. Rushing up to lean on Wang Guangning's shoulders, he cried, "Brother Ning, I'll be depending on you for the exam this time!"

Wang Guangning's phone lit up and he calmly pushed away Sun Siyang before opening it. It turned out to be a message from a courier.

Hello, you have a package. Please head over next to Kang Kang Supermarket before twelve-thirty and present your credentials. All express delivery.

"?" Wang Guangning was puzzled. He didn't have a habit of shopping online and did not have any need for the service of express delivery during this period. How could he have a message from a courier?

Doubtful and suspicious, Wang Guangning directly headed over to Kang Kang Supermarket at the specified time after his class finished and received a large box.

Back at his dormitory, Wang Guangning was suddenly shocked as he opened the box.

It was a set of SpongeBob SquarePants pyjamas!

They were made from glistening yellow wool the colour of coral, with specks of green reminiscent of fungi. There was even a very forceful cartoon picture of the character itself.

Wang Guangning stared in at the set of pyjamas in front of him. He was very fond of SpongeBob SquarePants, however as a fresh³ *xiao cao*, it was not suitable for the image of the extremely yellow and violent character to appear on his body. Therefore, even though he really liked SpongeBob SquarePants and had even had the impulsive urge to buy a set of those clothes, he had never acted upon that desire.

[3] : has several meanings, but it basically refers to teenagers or young adults who try to appear stylish or artistic. (mentioned previously in chapter fourteen)

In the end, who was it that understood his heart so deeply and had even sent him this set?

Wang Guangning had many female suitors and had received countless gifts from them ever since he was young. They included chocolate, couple mugs, potted plants and so on. However, it was his first time receiving such a tasteful gift.

Wang Guangning was unable to make sense of who would send this to him.

It was reasonable to say that since his external presentation was quite good, no female student should know that he liked SpongeBob SquarePants.

Just as Wang Guangning was speculating, he received Zhang Lingyi's phone call, "*Shou shou*, I've found that you've signed the acceptance for the package from the express delivery. Did you receive my gift?"

"The express delivery was from you?" Wang Guangning was slightly perturbed.

"Ah, yes!" Zhang Lingyi said proudly, "Well? Do you like it?"

Wang Guangning felt quite complexed in his heart. He was confused for half a day before finally indifferently answering, “I like it.”

“*Ha ha ha*——” Zhang Lingyi laughed, “I just knew that you would like it! I’ve long found out your tastes...” He clicked his tongue.

The moving feeling in Wang Guangning’s heart instantly dissipated and he said threateningly, “What kind of taste do I have?”

“Of course it’s that your taste is so good that I have nothing to say,” Zhang Lingyi had interacted with Wang Guangning for a long time so he had gradually come to understand his temper. At this kind of moment, he should follow by coaxing him, then nothing could go wrong. As expected, Wang Guangning’s aura quickly became harmonious again when he finished speaking. Laughing mischievously, Zhang Lingyi said, “*Shou shou*, where’s my gift?”

“Yours?” Wang Guangning was obviously quite confused. Could it be that Zhang Lingyi had not only given him the gift so suddenly, but also wanted him to reciprocate and prepare one for the other as well?

From Wang Guangning’s tone, Zhang Lingyi detected that something wasn’t quite right. His voice instantly dropped, “*Shou shou*, could it be that you haven’t prepared a gift for me?”

Wang Guangning finally couldn’t restrain himself and said, “You didn’t tell me that I needed to get you a gift, how would I know...”

“*Shou shou*, how could this matter be something that I need to remind you of? You’re not attentively being gay with me. Did you forget what we needed to do today?”

The implied meaning of Zhang Lingyi’s words were brimming with complaint. All that was missing was that he didn’t appear in front of Wang Guangning then point his finger at the other’s forehead and rain curses on him for betraying their love.

Attentively being gay...what they needed to do today...

Wang Guangning's brain as a top student worked at high speed as a result of Zhang *xiao cao*'s accusations. Finally, he recalled the twelve article on their agreement of being gay which was...

Secretly buying the things that the other wants to purchase but does not dare to.

The in Wang Guangning's heart was incapable of increasing any further. To him, this piece of agreement had always just been a game. He hadn't planned to seriously implement the things said on it. However, these few days, he had been dragged along this journey by Zhang Lingyi, and he had already decided that it would be enough to just complete everything in a perfunctory manner.

However, Zhang Lingyi's dedication often exceeded his own expectations.

If it was before, he would certainly just scoff and buy something to appease Zhang Lingyi.

But maybe Zhang Lingyi's seriousness influenced him, or maybe Zhang Lingyi's actions yesterday of helping him made him unable to just brush everything away. Hence, a faint sense of guilt seemed to give birth in his heart and his voice became softer, "Sorry, I really did forget. What do you want? I'll go and buy it for you now."

Wang Guangning's words this time were genuine and sincere, yet Zhang Lingyi felt upset upon hearing them. On the other side of the phone, he said in a sour tone, "*Shou shou*, I know that you like SpongeBob SquarePants."

"En." Wang Guangning didn't know the reason why he suddenly mentioned thus. However, for Zhang Lingyi to actually know his preference for this matter caused him to unexpectedly feel slightly touched.

"Yet you don't even know what I like..." Zhang Lingyi felt very wronged.

"Uh....." Wang Guangning choked for a second. After all, they were still life or death enemies a few days earlier. Wasn't it quite normal for him not to know Zhang Lingyi's preference? However, since Zhang Lingyi had

already sent him his favourite SpongeBob SquarePants, Wang Guangning was unable to retort.

Although Zhang Lingyi's magnanimity was not to the state of being able to support a ship, he was still quite indulgent towards Wang Guangning. While Wang Guangning was still trying to think of ways to appease Zhang Lingyi, the one on the other side of the phone call had already laughed in a carefree manner, "Forget it. Every devoted *gong* must unconditionally forgive their proud *shou*!"

"....." Wang Guangning took a deep breath and felt that he was the one who needed to be comforted.

".....I just knew that you would definitely not care about what I like!" Zhang Lingyi didn't pay attention to the fact that Wang Guangning's three values⁴ had been completely destroyed by him unintentionally. He single-mindedly continued speaking, "I've already chosen a gift. I'll send the link to you, and all you have to do is pay for it!"

[4] : is apparently Chinese internet slang that means one's three fundamental values (world view, values of worth and philosophy on life) have been subverted. It's a humorous way of telling other people that you're is shocked.

Wang Guangning: "....."

Ah, Zhang Lingyi really was a very meticulous *xiao gong*. To think that he had even helped him to complete the world's most difficult task of choosing a gift.

Zhang Lingyi did as he said so when Wang Guangning logged onto his computer and entered **⁵, a link was sent to him from the other. Opening it, Wang Guangning discovered that it was actually a small pot of *Crassula ovata*⁶.

[5] Was originally left blank by the author, but I'm guessing that since it's two 'words', the website Wang Guangning went on is probably Taobao or something similar.

[6] : translates literally to ‘money tree’, however, I used the scientific term for this plant. Other common names for *Crassula ovata* are: Jade Plant, Friendship Tree, Lucky Plant, Money Tree, Penny Plant, Dollar Plant and Tree of Happiness.

SecretaryDaRen⁷ : Ah, so it turns out you like Money Trees...

[7] : in this context, it apparently means something similar to the Japanese usage of ‘sama’. I’ve just kept it in pinyin form, although there are other ways of translating it.

Six-packSkill : (#‘) I knew you would be like this, proud *shou*’s all have no conscience!

SecretaryDaRen : o(∩□∪)o What did I do?

Six-packSkill : r(∩^∪)η

SecretaryDaRen : I’ve paid for it, you should be able to receive it now.

Six-packSkill : I’m angry right now, don’t talk to me.

SecretaryDaRen :

SecretaryDaRen : Alright, then I’ll leave first (^_^)/~~ Goodbye~~

Six-packSkill :

Just like this, Zhang Lingyi helplessly watched Wang Guangning go offline as his weak heart broke into pieces and turned into debris.

The author has something to say: Small Theatre

PatrickStar : *Shou shou*, are you online?

SecretaryDaRen : O_O You are?

PatrickStar : (ㄟ_ㄟ)# *Shou shou*, how can you not even recognise your own *xiao gong gong*!

SecretaryDaRen : How come you changed your name?

PatrickStar : Ah, because you're SpongeBob SquarePants!

Teaser for the next chapter:

/at the hair salon/

ZLY: (ㄟ) *Shou shou*, what kind of hairstyle should I have?

WGN: Bald.

ZLY:

WGN: _(:3 ㄔ)_

ZLY: (oTT – TT)

In answer to those asking about the dynamics of Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's relationship, Zhang Lingyi is the *gong* officially. And that includes in title, and also in their future 'relationship' ~

That also means there will be mature scenes later in this novel, so be prepared (' • ~ • ')

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 016

016

“Choosing a different hairstyle for each other...consequently, a HKT brother and an iron-blooded man”

day thirteen | choosing a hairstyle for each other that you will both like



For the hair salon named ‘Tony Boy’ which was situated near F University, today was their most glorious day ever since they had first opened. This hair salon had gathered many stylists who had exaggerated hairstyles, piercings, heavy make-up and wore flamboyant clothes. All the customers who had visited here were people with very peculiar tastes. And today, the two *xiao cao* who represented men from F University with the best taste, appeared at Tony Boy simultaneously.

Tony, the manager of Tony Boy, had his face streaked with tears as he smiled widely. Ah, today was the most historic of Tony Boy ever since they had first entered the premises of F University’s high-end society!

Wearing Chinese heavy metal styled *clothes* that could often be found from villages in the countryside, Tony trembled in excitement from head to feet. He decided to personally create a hairstyle for these two *xiao cao* which was rich with ‘Tony Style’ and would astonish all F University.

At this moment, Wang Guangning’s mood contrasted starkly with Tony’s intense elation and excitement. Instead...he felt an unparalleled pain in his balls¹.

[1] : in figurative terms, it means one is either extremely bored, or very agitated and anxious.

“Zhang Lingyi, are you certain you want to get our hair done here?” Ever since Zhang Lingyi had come looking for him early in the morning with a smirk on his face, Wang Guangning had felt apprehensive. However, he had never imagined that Zhang Lingyi’s taste would actually be this heavy.

This store Tony Boy, which was situated on the grounds of F University had a similar reputation to Sister Furong² from the fashion circles. Wang Guangning suspected that this was Zhang Lingyi’s revenge against him for forgetting to promptly send the other a gift yesterday.

[2] : Sister Furong, also known as Sister Lotus. She was from Wugong, China and received worldwide notoriety in 2005 for the posts she uploaded onto the internet. (More information can be found here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sister_Furong)

“*Shou shou.*” Zhang Lingyi stared resolutely at Wang Guangning. His sincere expression caused Wang Guangning to feel doubtful, as if he was adopting a suspicious attitude without proper justifications³. “Did you know, ever since the first time I met you, I had hoped that there would be a day when you could come to this place and change your hairstyle for once!”

[3] : to gauge the heart of a gentleman with one’s own mean of measure. I found a few examples of how to translate this in different contexts, and finally decided on the one I used above.

Zhang Lingyi didn’t lie to Wang Guangning. When he had first met Wang Guangning, he had thought that this person looked very unpleasant. Hence, when he discovered this wonderful hair salon, Tony Boy, he had always wished for a day when Wang Guangning could come here and have his hair done.

He didn’t expect that his wish which he had thought to be impossible would actually be achieved today!

This world shouldn’t be so beautiful!

Wang Guangning silently watched Zhang Lingyi's expression of eagerness and wide smile. In his heart, he thought quietly — did you forget? Regarding this matter of changing hairstyles, it goes both ways. You're trying to play me, how could I not retaliate?

Wang Guangning didn't know why the four words of a 'love and hate relationship' appeared in his heart. Immediately afterwards, he sighed with sorrow.

Fuck, this was just the result of him being imperceptibly influenced by Zhang Lingyi, alright?

The two of them sat in front of a large mirror and stared at the heavy metal style. With a red coiffure, Tony held a pair of scissors and walked towards them slowly. Inwardly, a distorted feeling of excitement actually erupted in Wang Guangning.

Then, let us just act recklessly together⁴. We'll see who loses more face than the other at the end!

[4] : used to describe someone or something that is very odd or unusual; someone who behaves outside of social norms.

“Have these two customers decided upon what kind of hairstyles you would like? Or would you like me to create one?” Tony's eyes shone brightly as he gazed hungrily at Zhang Lingyi and Wang Guangning's hair. “The hairstyles that we design are completely for free, and we're very good at the Japanese or Hallyu styles. The two of you are so handsome, if that's coupled that with the hairstyle customised for you both by Tony Boy, then you'll definitely look incredibly cool. It will immediately attract all the female students at F University...”

What Japanese or Hallyu styles? This was obviously the style of that famous band from Vietnam, alright?

Wang Guangning silently ridiculed.

Then, as if in response to his ridicule, Zhang Lingyi spoke to Tony with a particularly serious expression, “No, I’ve already decided what hairstyle to do. You just have to follow this.” As he spoke, he pulled out a printed piece of paper in colour from his pocket and handed it to Tony.

Wang Guangning stretched his neck and peeked at it, then instantly jolted as his scalp tingled. He almost felt like turning tail and escaping.

Damn, it really was that popular group from Vietnam, HKT!

On the coloured piece of paper that Zhang Lingyi had printed, was evidently a picture from Weibo of the Vietnam band HKT.

Initially, when Tony heard that Zhang Lingyi had already thought of what hairstyle he wanted, he was unhappy since it meant he would be unable to exhibit his creativity. Then, upon being given the picture, his eyes shone and he beamed with joy.

“I didn’t expect that this handsome brother would also have such good taste. HKT’s style has recently been or flagship product, it’s both stylish and domineering. In particular, it has the style of a superstar, especially this one...” Tony pointed his finger, the long nail landing on the ‘superstar’ with the fringe who was standing in the middle of the picture, “Many handsome guys are following the trend and imitating his hairstyle. Choosing this hairstyle is perfect!”

Ah, of course it’s the right choice! Zhang Lingyi expressed his satisfaction at Tony’s explanation. He just knew that he should come and find Tony to do this hairstyle, only he could style it like the original!

At the side, Zhang Lingyi nodded his head then quickly pointed at Wang Guangning in an accurate move, “No, not me. He is the one who wants this hairstyle.”

A chill splashed down Wang Guangning’s spine. As he watched Tony turn his passionate gaze shift towards his own body, Wang Guangning suddenly had the impulse to kill Zhang Lingyi.

However, as a man, he would do as he said.

Although the incarnation of a snarling deity had already emerged in his heart, Wang Guangning still summoned up his courage and nodded his head with a twisted expression, “Yes, I want this hairstyle.”

Zhang Lingyi, you dare let me become a HKT brother. ⁵

[5] The sentence that follows this is , does anyone know how to translate this? All I understand is that Wang Guangning is threatening Zhang Lingyi in his mind, saying he will also dare to ‘do something’. TT – TT

Tony then once again enthusiastically told Wang Guangning that in all of G city, only he could reproduce the original intensity of HKT’s hairstyle. He assured that even the length of the hair on his temples would be exactly the same, and that Wang Guangning would be able to smile proudly once he stepped into the campus.

As a result, Wang Guangning became even more worried.

After completely tyrannising Wang Guangning’s spirit, Tony turned and asked Zhang Lingyi, his eyes bright, “And what does this handsome brother prefer as his hairstyle.”

Thinking that there was absolutely no hairstyle in the world that could surpass HKT, Zhang Lingyi calmly faced Wang Guangning and said, “I’ll ask him.”

Wang Guangning sharply swept his gaze over Zhang Lingyi, distressed to find that he really could not think of any hairstyle which existed that was beyond HKT’s style. Hence, he turned around in an especially mischievous manner, “Bald!”

Tony: “.....”

Zhang Lingyi: “.....”

Tony laughed, “Is this handsome guy just joking?”

Wang Guangning replied in a firm tone, “No, I’m serious. I have always thought that being bald was the symbol of an iron-blooded man! Zhang Lingyi, what do you think?” That last sentence clearly carried the hint of a threat.

Zhang Lingyi hesitated in his heart, should he continue this love and hate relationship with Wang Guangning, or just give up and compromise? To a xiao cao who highly valued his appearance, he’d rather die than have to swagger into the city with a bald head...however, it seemed Wang Guangning had really become the embodiment of a *sha ma te*⁶!

Idiot!

[6] : ‘shā mǎ tè’ (loanword from ‘smart’) refers to the Chinese subculture of young urban migrants- usually of low education, with exaggerated hairstyles, heavy make-up, flamboyant costumes, piercings and so on.

Zhang Lingyi was at a loss for a while, but ultimately his love for his appearance was unable to resist his wish to see Wang Guangning become a *sha ma te*. In the end, Zhang Lingyi said with a serious expression, “Yes, that’s right. I particularly want a very manly and domineering bald head. Master⁷, please get started!”

[7] : in this case, it’s used to refer to a qualified worker.

Tony’s expression was as if he had just eaten shit, and he was lifeless for half a day before finally swinging his hips towards Wang Guangning. At the same time, he directed a shout into the back of the store, “Eric, Eric... quickly come and out and shave off all the hair for this handsome brother...”

He waited for a long time, but no one responded. Tony’s expression sunk and he put his hands on his hips before shouting again, “Li Guodong, you dead person! Did you not hear me? There’s customers out here, you better roll out quickly!”

“I’m coming, I’m coming...” They saw a young man staggering out, dressed quite similar to a gelatin dessert. While running, he replied in an embarrassed voice, “I’m still not used to using this English name...”

At this point in time, both Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi felt a kind of vague anxiousness.

The evening was cold, and a chilling wind rustled in the air. Various kinds of dead leaves littered the street, just like a classical scene shot from one of Wu Yu Sen’s⁸ films. It seemed as if white doves could also be faintly seen, fluttering in the breeze.

[8] : director and screenwriter from Hong Kong, his English name is John Woo Yu-Sen.

During this moment, there should have been one or two tall and fierce looking men wearing black coats with high collars and white scarves. They should appear at the end of the street near the horizon, with grim expressions as they bit a toothpick between their teeth...

Yes, just like the plot in those films, the silhouettes of two tall men did indeed appear at the end of the street where the horizon was. Their features were refined, and they carried a handsome and elegant aura. Their expressions were even comparable to a male lead who acted as a murderer in a film.

Only, why were their hairstyles so horrifying?

One of them had a hairstyle reminiscent of those heavy metal styles from a countryside village. His hair was fluffy and stood up high, and his fringe drooped down across his forehead in alternating colours of white and purple. With this, the currently most respected fashion trend in Vietnam was manifested.

As opposed to his complicated hairstyle, the other man’s hairstyle was extremely simple—— he had no hair.

His smooth and bare head was exposed to the cold wind, causing him to shiver involuntarily.

That's right, they were the two *xiao cao* of F University—Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi—who were popular with a multitude of girls and were the representatives of having good tastes, causing people to fall over each other in their eagerness to imitate their style.

After going through four hours of having their hair washed, cut, blown, ironed and dyed, they had finally been able to give a hairstyle to each other that they were both satisfied with. Of course, they were also completely grieving and lamenting over their own hairstyles.

Wang Guangning's face was not thick enough, and walking down the road with such a hairstyle made him feel very uncomfortable. Fortunately, there were very few people on the street and they didn't meet anyone they knew. Otherwise, he really would feel the urge to kill.

“Zhang Lingyi, how long do I have to endure this hairstyle?” Wang Guangning couldn't help but touch the tip of his hair that towered above. He felt that Tony really was quite an formidable hairdresser. His own hair was obviously not even that long, so how could it end up reaching so high after experiencing his skills?

This appearance was too sinister!

Although Zhang Lingyi's bald head was also very unsightly, it couldn't be compared to Wang Guangning's very stylish *sha me te* kind of hairstyle. Feeling pleased with himself, he said, “Wait until my hair grows out again!”

“As if!” Wang Guangning replied angrily, “*Laozi* will go and shave off my tomorrow!”

“Ah, don't, *shou shou*!” Zhang Lingyi slung his arm across Wang Guangning's shoulder, “I think your hairstyle looks particularly great, just like that of a famous star!”

“Hmph!” Wang Guangning threw off Zhang Lingyi’s arm, “If you like it so much, then you can get one too when your hair grows back!”

Zhang Lingyi coughed. Undeterred, he once again laid his arm across Wang Guangning’s shoulder, “Don’t be like this, haven’t I also shaved my hair to become bald? As men, we must courageously face any peculiar stares thrown at us!”

Wang Guangning realised that trying to establish logic with Zhang Lingyi was nothing but a dead end road.

Hence, he arrogantly gave Zhang Lingyi a jab then scuttled back to his dorm at the speed of lightning.

As if he would keep loitering outside with such a hairstyle.

He had already lost face too many times in these past few days with Zhang Lingyi.

Wang Guangning observed his own odd hairstyle for an entire afternoon, then strongly decided that he could definitely not go to public places like the self-study hall anymore. He should just lay low and study in his dorm.

He then sent a text to Sun Siyang asking the other to bring him take-away for dinner.

That night, when Sun Siyang returned to the dormitory, he placed the take-away on Wang Guangning’s chair just like he usually did. As a result, he found a purple and white fluffy head nestled there.

“Fuck, are you trying to scare this daddy?” Sun Siyang who had always been quite timid was caught unaware and became frightened. He retreated suddenly, “Where did this demon come from? Why are you here in my dorm?”

Sun Siyang’s voice had just spoken when that fluffy ball slowly turned towards him. He was astonished to find that he was facing Wang

Guangning's expression of bitterness.

"....." Sun Siyang stared in a daze for a while, before he finally croaked out a few words from his brain, "Guangning, did you...receive Tony Boy's endorsement fee yet?"

Wang Guangning wasn't in the mood to explain the matter to Sun Siyang. He reached out a hand dispiritedly and grabbed the take-away, immersing himself in gobbling up the food in an attempt to borrow his appetite to escape the pain caused by his hairstyle.

"Guangning, what happened to you?" Sun Siyang worried incessantly. He knew that the number one species which Wang Guangning despised was *sha ma te*, so why would he get such a hairstyle for no reason?

"Nothing happened." Wang Guangning stared deeply into the distance, then slowly spat out a few words, "It's just that I suddenly...became HKT's fan...that's all..."

Ah, heavens! Please send a lightning bolt and strike him to death!

However, the thunderbolt did not hack him, but split apart Sun Siyang instead.

That night, F Xing Ren exploded with a piece of serious news—the two xiao cao Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were suspected to have been wounded in their heart and thus abandoned themselves to despair by both getting unusual hairstyles.

As soon as Wang Guangning was told this news by Sun Siyang, he instantly opened the forum. At this moment in time, the posts on the forum were spreading like wildfire. Weibo was also already updating the news in perfect synchronous.

Fellow students and alumnus expressed in profusion that the reason behind this must be because 2012 had almost arrived.

Many young women had posted n number of crying faces in succession, saying that they were tired and felt that they would no longer love again!

“How did this happen?” Wang Guangning stared at an extremely clear picture of his very ‘stylish’ hairstyle and Zhang Lingyi’s bald head which had appeared online. He suddenly had a feeling of wanting to cry, but not having the tears to do so. Obviously he had chosen to go at a time when people were scarcely about, and he definitely remembered that they hadn’t come across anyone on their way back. So how could this news have been spread out?

Sun Siyang was clearly in the mood to gossip and he said, “I heard that apparently Tony Boy’s manager was very excited since it’s rare for you and Zhang Lingyi to be customers there together. So he secretly took a photo of you both, uploaded it onto Weibo, then...”

Tears streaked down Wang Guangning’s face.

However, the point that Sun Siyang cared about was different to Wang Guangning. At the side, he asked cautiously, “But Guangning, how come you appeared in Tony Boy at the same time as Zhang Lingyi? And how come he also has such an...unusual hairstyle?”

Sun Siyang felt that something fishy was going on.

At the beginning, when Wang Guangning and Zhang lingyi had worn the same outfit and appeared in the same café, he had only thought that it was a coincidence. After all, they had both hated each other for a long time. As Wang Guangning’s dormmate and best friend, he had also personally witnessed how Wang Guangning ridiculed Zhang Lingyi.

Yet, during this period of time, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi frequently interacted and it was unlike that of a fight between two irreconcilable enemies. On the contrary, there seemed to be something unclear between them. If it was as Wang Guangning had said before, that they had made peace and were now friends, then it was even more odd. If they had made peace and were now friends, did they need to both have these hairstyles that would clearly attract enmity?

This was truly too strange!

Sun Siyang suspected whether Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi had some kind of devil agreement between them both!

So was this an alternative way of a confrontation?

To see who could use a more exotic method and destroy each other faster?

Wang Guangning didn't know that Sun Siyang had already thought of so much in his mind. His heart and soul were currently immersed in the bitter reality of his ruined reputation which had been built up over so many years. He climbed up into his bed and decided to sleep early.

ρ(- ω -) (' ∇ ') Poor Sun Siyang, he's so confused ~

ο(-)ο This chapter took a while since it's probably the most difficult one that I've had to translate so far...

There was about 5000 Chinese characters in the raws, and so many different names and idioms I've never heard before (ㄱ ㄴ)

At any rate, hope you all enjoy this update ~

I'll go back and edit through all the chapters so there's no typos or grammatical errors when we reach Chapter 20 ^ - ^

On a random note, I caught up on the latest chapter of **What Lies at the End/ At the End of the Road** while translating this, and I can't believe it's completed > . <

“the time we'd be apart would be nothing compared to the time we'd spend together”

– min woojin ♥

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 017

017

**“Looking at the stars together and holding the other in your embrace
when it feels cold”**

*day fourteen | looking at the stars together and holding the other in your
embrace when it feels cold*



Early in the morning of the next day, a fully equipped Wang Guangning quietly ran to a hair salon to trim off his hair—which looked like a peacock having its tail spread out—and settled for a crew cut.

Thankfully, his agreement with Zhang Lingyi yesterday was only for a day. Otherwise, Wang Guangning estimated that he would cultivate himself to become a hermit and never step outside again in the future.

Around noon, Wang Guangning walked out from the hair salon feeling fresh and relaxed. His mood was much better than before, hence he cheerfully sent a text over to Zhang Lingyi, something which he rarely initiated.

Do you want to eat together?

According to previous times, Zhang Lingyi should agree happily then seize advantage of the situation and take liberties with him. He didn't expect that Zhang Lingyi would actually coldly reject him.

Maybe later tonight. I've already agreed to eat lunch with Zihui.

It was Luo Zihui again. Wang Guangning's heart felt faintly depressed so he replied in a particularly proud manner.

I don't have time tonight.

Zhang Lingyi quickly sent back another text.

En, alright. Then we'll agree on a time at a later date, tonight let's go and watch the stars (ノ 3 ノ).

Wang Guangning shivered, goosebumps appearing on his skin as he stared at Zhang Lingyi's evil intention of trying to act cute in their texts. He decided that he had better just keep revising instead.

At this moment, Zhang Lingyi was overjoyed as he gazed at the text messages and imagined Wang Guangning's gloomy expression.

Seeing Zhang Lingyi staring at his phone and restraining his laughter to the point of shaking, Luo Zihui couldn't help but curiously ask, "What are you looking at that's making you so happy?"

Zhang Lingyi put away his phone then said with a smile, "Nothing, it's just that I was sending a text to Wang Guangning."

"Wang Guangning?" Luo Zihui frowned and swallowed the weird feeling that filled her heart, "You seem to be quite close with Wang Guangning recently."

"En." Zhang Lingyi ate his lunch while absent-mindedly replying, "He's quite amusing."

"Ah, but weren't you both on disagreeable terms before?" Luo Zihui didn't know why she suddenly thought of Zhang Lingyi's wallpaper of Wang Guangning on his phone. Her brows knitted together tighter.

Zhang Lingyi wasn't paying much attention to Luo Zihui's expression and only focused on eating his food. "Before, I didn't like him all that much and

thought that he was very arrogant. But after interacting with him for a few days, I think he's quite good. Although he is a bit narcissistic, he is extremely generous and knows how to joke around. En, he is also a very self-motivated person."

Luo Zihui laughed reluctantly, "I rarely see you having such opinion of other people. If it wasn't for the fact that Wang Guangning is male, I would suspect that you actually like him."

Luo Zihui's words weren't false. Zhang Lingyi said that Wang Guangning was narcissistic, but in fact, his own level of narcissism was quite high as well. On the whole, he didn't really view anyone highly. This was also the reason why he had always been out of sorts with Wang Guangning.

Luo Zihui and Zhang Lingyi have been classmates for three years. Although she didn't hear him maliciously belittle others, it was extremely rare to hear him praise another. Therefore, to hear him compliment Wang Guangning, she did indeed feel surprised.

"*He he*. Nowadays, gay love isn't something males or females avoid!" Zhang Lingyi said meaningfully at he faced Luo Zihui and smiled. It was practically as if he had his hands on his hips and was laughing heartily as he delivered an announcement to all lands under heaven. So what if it was male on male? This young master was pretending to be gay with Wang Guangning!

However, his target for retaliating against society was not Luo Zihui. If he went ahead and told her, apart from making himself appear foolish, it would give also be giving Wang Guangning extra trouble. Furthermore, it wouldn't help further their plan to get revenge against society.

Zhang Lingyi considered the matter for a while then decided to say nothing.

Yet, Luo Zihui had been shocked for a second because of his words. Luo Zihui who had always known how to skilfully advance and retreat, and was good at using words to speak was now unable to control her expression. Stiffly, she said, "Lingyi, your words truly do make people think misleading thoughts..."

“*Ha ha*, really?” Zhang Lingyi’s expression appeared quite proud and he winked at Luo Zihui, “Do Wang Guangning and I really look as if we are a gay couple?”

En, if even Luo Zihui thought so, then their plan should be considered at least half successful!

Zhang Lingyi considered whether or not to celebrate with Wang Guangning tonight.

“Um.....” Faced with Zhang Lingyi’s eyes full of expectation, Luo Zihui was unsure of what he was thinking. She had always thought that in F University, she was the one who understood Zhang Lingyi the best. So how come in the past few days, she felt as if things seemed wrong. It was like everything she had been certain of in the past had been completely thrown into disorder. In the end, she didn’t answer Zhang Lingyi’s question and instead smiled, “I wouldn’t go as far as that. Guys just fooling around is quite normal.”

“Oh!” Zhang Lingyi didn’t hear the answer he had desired so he patted his head in disappointment.

This was Zhang Lingyi’s new hobby after he had discovered that using his hand to touch his bald head felt particularly refreshing. Ever since he had his head shaved, he loved to touch it, even if it was for no reason whatsoever.

Luo Zihui directed her gaze at his bald head, and her expression turned strange for a moment. “Lingyi, how come you decided...to have such a hairstyle...”

She really felt as if she understood Zhang Lingyi less and less. The Zhang Lingyi she knew regarded his reputation as if it was his life. Don’t even talk about shaving his head, even just touching his fringe was like threatening his life. These few days, exactly what kind of crazy thing had happened?

She had heard that Wang Guangning also had an odd hairstyle!

The strange feeling in Luo Zihui's heart grew heavier.

Zhang Lingyi was evidently calmer than her and he said with a laugh, "Nothing much, I just thought it would be amusing. Don't you think that being bald feels very manly?"

He continued speaking while eating his lunch, "Right, Zihui. You were the one who invited me out for this meal, so how come after speaking for so long about my matters, you still haven't said the reason why you asked me out?"

"Can't I invite you out to eat without having any particular reason?" Luo Zihui held the bowl in her hands tightly.

"Of course it's not that!" Zhang Lingyi laughed. Yet, in his heart, he thought—recently I've been occupied with being gay so if you don't have anything much you need to say, please don't delay mine and *shou shou's* dates.

"The reason I invited you out today...is because I have something important I want to tell you." Luo Zihui hesitated for a long time before finally speaking.

"Oh, what is it?" Zhang Lingyi's eyebrows raised.

Luo Zihui gazed at him with bright eyes full of hope, "Lingyi, we've already known each other for three years..."

"En." Zhang Lingyi's heart felt slightly less calm. He couldn't be blamed him overthinking since the expression in Luo Zihui's eyes and her opening words were too much like she was about to confess. In truth, he quite liked Luo Zihui. She was intelligent and beautiful, and understood how to give herself and others room to manoeuvre. In F University, he hadn't met another female student more suitable for himself than Luo Zihui. However, the problem was, he still hadn't psychologically prepared himself to accept her!

"During these three years, I haven't been in a relationship..." Luo Zihui spoke slowly, leaving enough time for Zhang Lingyi to think over her

words, “The reason for this, I’m sure you are very clear about...”

Usually, if the female students did not open a topic like this to him, Zhang Lingyi wouldn’t take the initiative to expose them. However, it had to be said that Zhang Lingyi did not like deliberately being ambiguous or pretending to be oblivious and continuously drag these matters on. Therefore, even though Luo Zihui had abruptly breached this topic, he still nodded his head in a straightforward manner.

“En, I know.”

Zhang Lingyi’s frankness startled Luo Zihui for a second, but she quickly went on, “Lingyi, originally...I had hoped...that these words would be spoken first from your mouth...”

Zhang Lingyi smiled in apology.

Luo Zihui also smiled and said, “I suspect that if this keeps dragging on, I still wouldn’t receive an answer from you even at graduation!”

Zhang Lingyi was silent. It wasn’t that he didn’t want to say anything, but rather that he really didn’t know what to say.

It was because he knew that what Luo Zihui had said, may as well be true.

Luo Zihui may be an indispensable friend of his, however, in regard to feelings, he had always treated their existence lightly.

This was indeed not fair to Luo Zihui.

Yet, searching for fairness in feelings was a ridiculous idea in itself.

Luo Zihui also did not intend for Zhang Lingyi to fully understand the situation with just those two sentences. Smiling faintly, she said, “Actually Lingyi, Zhuo Ximing confessed to me two days ago...”

Zhuo Ximing was F University’s computer genius and also a very influential figure in the campus. However, he was well-known due to genuinely relying on his own strength and talent, unlike Wang Guangning

and Zhang Lingyi's popularity which was related to their outward appearances. Zhou Ximing's character could only be said to be very upright.

Yet, the level of admiration of female students towards Zhou Ximing was not much less than Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi.

The reason for this was simple. Compared to Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's devastating features, Zhou Ximing's appearance made the female students feel more secure.

Also, Zhou Ximing was not as difficult to get close to like Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi.

Stunned, Zhang Lingyi watched Luo Zihui.

"Lingyi, I am a young woman. For me, three years has already been long enough. I do not want to keep waiting indefinitely." Luo Zihui was indeed a person who behaved with propriety. Even while speaking these words, they were still as fitting as before. "I want to give myself a chance. But before I make my choice, I don't want to destroy my past three years of waiting in vain."

"The reason why I came today is because I'd like your answer."

"You don't have to hurry and answer me, I'll give you three days to consider. During these three days, no matter what your answer will be, you can let me know at any time."

When Zhang Lingyi walked out of the cafeteria, he still felt a bit dizzy, even the Dark Chef's speciality dish of indigo woad root and corn soup did not leave him an aftertaste.

Towards Luo Zihui, he quite liked her. However, it was the kind of like that wasn't anything very exciting. Rather, it made him feel quite comfortable, and not to the point that he wanted to pierce through it.

In the past, Luo Zihui had not mentioned anything so he had also pretended not to know.

However, now, Luo Zihui had pierced through first. Hence, he also had no choice but to face this matter.

Should he accept, so they are together.

Or reject, and watch her fall into the embrace of another?

Zhang Lingyi sighed.

It was only until he met Wang Guangning in the late evening that he suddenly became aware of something—this question which he had been at a loss for an entire afternoon, actually involved Wang Guangning as well.

Before making this agreement with Wang Guangning, he had once considered his relationship with Luo Zihui. At that time, his way of thinking was to just let nature take its course. In the case that Luo Zihui ever took the initiative and opened her mouth first, and he didn't have a girlfriend yet, then being together wasn't a bad idea.

However, now that Luo Zihui had spoken, the thing that he was at a loss over was that—if he did get together with Luo Zihui, he would feel as if he had let down Wang Guangning!

This was too much!

Zhang Lingyi was frightened to the point of cold sweat appearing all over his body. Raising his head, he looked at Wang Guangning who had arrived at the place they agreed to meet a step earlier than him.

Wang Guangning was leaning against a streetlight, playing on his phone. As the temperature for today was unusually high, Wang Guangning wasn't wearing much—a shirt and a light jacket. The flashy and trendy hairstyle of yesterday had already been completely shaved, leaving only a fluffy crew cut.

The light from the streetlamp shone on his body which had been obscure in the darkness.

Yet, this sight nevertheless made people incapable of moving away their vision.

Zhang Lingyi didn't know why he suddenly thought of an evaluation of Wang Guangning posted on F Xing Ren's forums—

Wherever Wang Guangning is, was where the scenery would be.

Seeming to feel Zhang Lingyi's stare, Wang Guangning slowly lifted his head.

There was no expression on his face, and his gaze was insipid. As he lightly swept his eyes across, there suddenly was a feeling of looking down from a high place.

For some people, their noble aura was like one created by the heavens.

A humming noise filled Zhang Lingyi's mind and he completely didn't hear the sounds which surrounded him.

He also didn't hear the frantic pulsing in his heart.

stares at Zhang Lingyi with wide eyes Do you hear that?

($\geq \nabla \leq$) $\angle \ast$ *—☆—* Happy New Year *—☆—* (' ∇ ')

Hope you all have a wonderful 2018 and be healthy and happy ~

Teaser for the next chapter:

/watching the stars/

ZLY: Shou shou, quickly hug me! (³)

WGN: *shoves ZLY away*

ZLY: (: ^ :)

ZLY: *shoves WGN back*

/a while later/

ZLY: *hugging a reluctant WGN*

WGN: ...

WGN: What's that poking me? (☹_☹)

ZLY: (*∇*)

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 018

018

“Shou shou, quickly hug me”

*day fourteen | looking at the stars together and holding the other in your
embrace when it feels cold*



“Why are you just staring?” At some point, Wang Guangning had already walked in front of Zhang Lingyi. Reaching out a hand, he swatted his hand across Zhang Lingyi’s bald head, causing a ‘pa’ sound to echo out, “Let’s go!”

Zhang Lingyi hesitated, then caught up.

When it came to the most suitable place in F University to watch the stars, the choice was of course, Moon Lake.

There was a stunning view of the lake, the ground was level and the horizon could be clearly seen.

It was also the holy land for F University’s couples.

Right now it was winter, and near the end of the semester. Therefore, the number of couples here were greatly reduced. There only remained two or three stray couples, which was more convenient for Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi.

The two people found a secluded place and sat down. Zhang Lingyi had already prepared a bag of snacks and beer, which he told Wang Guangning

to eat and drink.

Wang Guangning leaned his elbows on his knees with his chin resting in his palms. Glancing to the side at Zhang Lingyi, he said, “We’re just waiting for the night to pass like this?”

“En.” Zhang Lingyi was still confused over his own complex thoughts so he didn’t pay much attention to Wang Guangning’s words.

Upon seeing Zhang Lingyi’s absent-minded expression, Wang Guangning couldn’t help but feel curious. Logically speaking, he should be very energetic and lively when it came to these matters of being gay.

“What are you thinking about?” Wang Guangning pushed Zhang Lingyi.

Zhang Lingyi recovered fiercely and faced Wang Guangning, suddenly feeling a bit guilty. Laughing, he said, “Nothing, I was just thinking about what time the stars would come out.”

Wang Guangning pursed his lips then scanned the dark sky above them, “Don’t tell me that you really want to watch the stars?”

Due to the severity of air and light pollution in modern cities, don’t even talk about wanting to see the stars, even the moon was hazy and unclear. Wang Guangning recalled that ever since he had come to G City to study, he had never really seen any stars.

“Ah, of course! Wasn’t watching the stars the reason we came out?” Zhang Lingyi opened a can of beer and handed it to Wang Guangning.

Taking the can, Wang Guangning sipped it then raised his head and stared up at the sky, “You can’t see any stars in the city. If you really want to see stars, you should go to the countryside.”

Zhang Lingyi had been born in G City and had grown up here, so he had never seen a sky full of stars. Hearing Wang Guangning’s words, he asked curiously, “Can you really see many stars in the countryside?”

Tilting his head, Wang Guangning thought about it then answered, “Ah, yes. You can see countless stars from where I live. If you want to see, then I can take you there when we have our break.”

“Sure!” Zhang Lingyi beamed then lifted his beer and shook it at him, “Come, cheers.”

Wang Guangning noncommittedly bumped his can with Zhang Lingyi’s.

The moon had already evidently appeared hanging in the air, surrounded by a few bright stars. Apart from those, the entire fabric of the heavens were dark with no other lights to be seen.

“Waa, stars!” Zhang Lingyi pointed at the sky and sighed in an exaggerated manner, “So beautiful!”

After being faced with Zhang Lingyi’s silly appearance, Wang Guangning carried his ice-cold can of beer and stuck it on the other’s face.

“Fuck, fuck! Are you trying to freeze me to death?” Zhang Lingyi hastily pushed away Wang Guangning’s hand, “*Shou shou*, this time it’s you provoking me!”

While speaking, Zhang Lingyi grabbed Wang Guangning’s shoulders. He locked the other tightly in his embrace as he abruptly attached his own can of beer against Wang Guangning’s neck.

“Ah, fuck!” Wang Guangning was bound to Zhang Lingyi and he was unable to budge at all. The slight chill on his neck caused him to shiver from the cold but he could only kick his arms and legs in an attempt to escape—just like a fish struggling near death.

It was only when Zhang Lingyi had played until he was satisfied that he finally loosened his hands with a laugh. In the next moment, Wang Guangning launched on top of him in one fierce move and pushed hi down onto the ground. Wang *xiao cao*’s tall body then proceeded to press down on Zhang Lingyi’s thigh like the weight of a mountain.

“Hmm~” Wang Guangning squinted, his lips curled up in a smirk at his success, “Zhang Lingyi, accept your death!” As he spoke, he used one hand to push up Zhang Lingyi’s shirt and exposed the legendary six-pack. Then, with his other hand, he shoved the cold beer can on the pale planes of Zhang Lingyi’s muscles.

Zhang Lingyi hissed and scrunched up his face as expected before shouting, “I admit defeat! I admit defeat!”

This was the first time throughout their entire rivalry that Zhang Lingyi had spoken the words ‘I admit defeat’. Feeling completely smug, Wang Guangning moved the can away while convulsing in laughter. He didn’t notice that the person underneath him who he was sitting on—Zhang Lingyi—had an incomparably awkward expression.

“Alright, alright.” Zhang Lingyi restrained his strange complexion and pretended to casually push Wang Guangning away. Then he proceeded to lay on the grass and acted dead, “Behave, and watch the stars properly.”

Wang Guangning lied on the ground next to him and gazed at the sky. His stomach and chest moved up and down violently as a result of his hearty laughter just then. His frame of mind nevertheless calmed down, which was a rare occurrence.

It seemed as if he had not experienced this kind of free and unconstrained laughter in a long time.

The happiness in life often stemmed from something simple. Yet, as people grow up, their hearts become more complicated and happiness is mixed with impurities. The smiles on their faces are also no longer completely pure.

For the first time in a long time, Wang Guangning felt serene in his heart; he couldn’t help but turn his head and look at Zhang Lingyi who had given him such a pure and simple feeling. Instead, he found Zhang Lingyi staring blankly at the sky. Wang Guangning didn’t know what the other was thinking about, seeing that he had not even rolled down his shirt which was bunched up at his chest.

Wasn't he afraid of being cold? Wang Guangning rolled his eyes and stretched out his hand to pull down his shirt, only to be faced with a fierce reaction from Zhang Lingyi.

"What are you doing?" Zhang Lingyi asked nervously, seeming to be a bit embarrassed.

"Don't you mean what are you doing?" Wang Guangning's lips twitched. His outstretched hand hovered stiffly in mid-air; he couldn't continue, yet couldn't retreat either. In the end, he simply scratched his fluffy head, "I just wanted to pull down your clothes."

It was only then that Zhang Lingyi realised he hadn't even pulled down his clothes and he hurriedly did so, "Oh, sorry. Thank you!"

"What are you thinking about that has you lost in thought?" Wang Guangning asked. He couldn't be blamed for being puzzled, Zhang Lingyi was a loud and lively person, so it was rare to see him with an appearance of pondering something deeply.

Zhang Lingyi didn't answer his question. Instead, he turned his head over to look at Wang Guangning, his eyes filled with indescribable and unclear emotions.

"What's wrong?" Being stared at him like this, chills erupted down Wang Guangning's spine.

"I'm cold!" Zhang Lingyi shouted before moving over and leaning onto Wang Guangning's chest, "*Shou shou*, quickly hug me tightly!"

Wang Guangning, "....."

"Ah, *shou shou*, quickly hug me!" Zhang Lingyi said, his own hands already holding onto Wang Guangning's shoulders, not letting go, "Didn't it already say? When it feels cold, you must tightly hug me in your arms!"

Wang Guangning really felt as if he had lost to him!

He choked and was speechless. Although Wang Guangning really wanted to shove Zhang Lingyi into the lake, he still ended up restraining himself and wrapped his arms around Zhang Lingyi's back when he saw the other's spirited appearance.

The chests of the two were stuck together. The moon in the sky was dim, and the stars were sparse. During this winter night, everything at Moon Lake was tranquil and quiet to the point that Zhang Lingyi and Wang Guangning could practically hear each other's heartbeat.

On this still night, every sound were particularly clear.

Only until they had both separated and returned to their own dorms did Zhang Lingyi dismiss the mask he had been wearing the entire night, revealing an expression of annoyance and embarrassment.

Although his body had now relaxed, he could still clearly recall the feeling of Wang Guangning sitting on his thigh.

At that time, Wang Guangning had only cared about using the beer can to make him feel cold. Hence, Wang Guangning didn't notice that the sensitive parts of the two were closely touching and rubbing together up and down due to their fooling around.

Originally, such behaviour between guys was very common. In the past, Zhang Lingyi had also pinned down his friends underneath him during mock fights, yet he hadn't thought much of such a position.

But he didn't know why tonight when Wang Guangning had sat on his thigh, he had felt a specific part of himself quietly transform into a beast.

Embarrassed and afraid of being found out by Wang Guangning, Zhang Lingyi could only quickly admit defeat and push Wang Guangning away. It was only after a long time afterwards before the feeling of restlessness stopped.

Zhang Lingyi thought that he really was an immoral and despicable person. He could tell that Wang Guangning had been generously tolerating him for this period of time, which resulted in him viewing Wang Guangning as his good friend.

Yet, he himself was actually...

Ah, he really wasn't human!

Zhang Lingyi slapped his forehead in annoyance. It must be because he had been too busy in the past few weeks and gave his right hand a holiday for too long. Hence, he had neglected the needs of his little brother¹ which led to the vigorous fire that couldn't be restrained even if it was a man who had teased him.

[1] : ... *pokes the comment section*

This shouldn't have happened.

Zhang Lingyi covered his face and hid in the bathroom as he began to comfort his suffering little brother.

But he didn't know why Wang Guangning's handsome and delicate face appeared involuntarily emerged in his mind.

Wang Guangning's appearance as he sat on his thigh and laughed heartily.

And he himself lying on Wang Guangning's chest, feeling the warmth and the heartbeat pounding beneath.

He was simply about to go insane!

Zhang Lingyi firmly despised himself as his little brother found release.

However, the truth was that Wang Guangning was actually not much calmer than Zhang Lingyi.

At the moment, Wang Guangning was in his dormitory and frantically searching on Baidu²——can heterosexual people become gay?

[2] : internet portal and search engine used in China

What are the warning signs for when people become gay?

Under what circumstances will heterosexual people have a reaction to someone of their own sex?

...

And so on.

That's right. Although Wang *xiao cao* gave the impression of being completely normal when together with Zhang Lingyi just then, in truth, his abnormal physiological reaction had already caused him to become deeply bewildered.

When he had pushed himself onto Zhang Lingyi, it had been merely an accidental move. He had also regarded his action of straddling Zhang Lingyi's body as an ordinary occurrence between guys when messing around. However, when the lower half of their bodies had nestled together snugly, Wang Guangning felt a peculiar sensation overcoming him.

He had trembled, as there had been an unspeakable thrill of pleasure!

This kind of feeling which only emerged when he had *those dreams*, made his scalp tingle. Immediately afterwards, he had felt embarrassed so he decided to feign nonchalance, as if nothing had happened.

However, when Zhang Lingyi had launched himself into his arms, Wang Guangning distinctly heard the frantic throbbing of his own heart in the moment where their chests had been stuck together.

At that second, Wang Guangning knew that he should have pushed Zhang Lingyi away. However, his body seemed to act by itself and hugged the other instead.

Wang Guangning wiped his face in vexation.

Why did everything become so chaotic?

Furthermore, he himself obviously had known that he was wrong, so why did he not stop and instead long for more³?

[3] : directly translates to ‘having tasted the marrow, the longing for its savour grows’. In ancient China, marrow (of animals such as pigs) had been regarded as very delicious, hence once people had a taste of it, they would eat it again. This idiom apparently has a sexual tinge to it, and also serves as a disapproving term as it has the meaning that even when you are attracted to something that you know is bad, you still want to try it again.

All the topics listed on Baidu regarding this subject was in disorder and Wang Guangning did not find any information which was useful so he simply decided to just get into bed and sleep early.

Upon returning to the dorm, Sun Siyang saw Wang Guangning lying on his bed. His entire head was hanging out, off the bed, and he had an expression of dismay.

“Guangning, what happened to you?” Sun Siyang asked in alarm.

“Nothing.” Wang Guangning withdrew his head back onto his bed and continued to look for a posture that was easy to fall asleep into. That’s right, it had already been an entire two hours since he had first climbed into his bed until now. Wang Guangning had been unable to fall asleep as he had been immersed in his grief that he may become gay.

“Ah, then why are you sleeping so early today?” Sun Siyang said. Wang Guangning usually studied particularly earnestly near the end of the semester and would revise until late into the night. It was extremely rare for a situation like this one to occur where he would already be in bed before anyone else returned to the dorm.

“It must be because it’s winter!” Wang Guangning stared up at the ceiling. En, it would be great if he could just directly enter hibernation like those cold-blooded animals.

“Ay, enough of that.” While tidying up his clothes, Sun Siyang sighed in sorrow, “I heard the class monitor say that the quota of people in our department going on the exchange to Taiwan has already been determined. Oh, and a professor recommended you!”

“Ah?” Wang Guangning had been lost in thought and did not respond momentarily upon hearing such big news.

Sun Siyang stared at him with a face full of amazement, “Didn’t you know?”

Wang Guangning’s expression was dull, “No one has told me yet.”

Sun Siyang said, “I heard the class monitor say that when he had visited the professor to get some materials, he just happened to see the list of names of those going on the exchange. There was only one person from our department, and that’s you. Now they’re just waiting for the president to sign and approve.” As he spoke, his eyebrow lifted, “Congratulations! Remember to invite me out to a meal when it’s approved.”

“Ah, alright!” Wang Guangning replied straightforwardly, however, he was not as excited as he had expected.

The exchange program between F University and one of Taiwan’s well-known universities was a collaborative project, with the exchange period being a year. Due to the limited amount of space, the people who could go on this exchange were basically only the first-class scholarship winners.

As the travel was free of cost, it was an event that all students in F University fell over each other in their eagerness to be admitted into.

Wang Guangning had fought for a long time for this place, and the university in Taiwan was outstanding in this field of study. Hence, he had always wanted to go there.

Originally, he should be very happy...

Wang Guangning sighed silently.

😊😊😊 This is why I love this chapter ~

Thank you to everyone who has supported this novel thus far, whether it is by simply reading, voting or commenting (love those <3).

translator: k i a i

OceanofPDF.com

ABG30D; 019

019

**“Regarding the problem about whose surname the child should have...
have you guys really not grasped the main point?”**

*day fifteen | raise a potted plant together and remind each other to give it
water and let it bask in the sun*



Sun Siyang thought that today was a very strange day; Wang Guangning who would always get up early in the morning was actually sleeping in!

He silently lifted his head and stared at the Wang *xiao cao* who had already wrapped himself in a cocoon. Sun Siyang wondered whether he had forgotten to adjust his alarm clock. Hence, he silently breathed out a sigh and said, “Guangning, it’s time to get up.”

Wang Guangning poked his head blearily through his quilt. Shooting a glance at Sun Siyang, he asked, “What time is it?”

Sun Siyang checked his phone. “It’s nearly nine o’clock. The library won’t have seats anymore.”

“Oh, that doesn’t matter. Today I’m going to stay in the dorm and revise.”

Wang Guangning climbed out of bed while he spoke.

“There seems to be something wrong about you these days!” Sun Siyang scratched his head with an expression of confusion, “Ah! Does it have to do with Zhang Lingyi?”

“No, there’s nothing.” Wang Guangning yawned and gave Sun Siyang a shove, “Don’t be troublesome and quickly go.”

When Sun Siyang left the dormitory, Wang Guangning rubbed his fluffy crew-cut while opening his phone to give Zhang Lingyi a call.

Zhang Lingyi picked it up swiftly, but Wang Guangning could gather from his tone that the other had probably just gotten out of bed.

“Ah, *shou shou*. I’m a bit tired today, so you can do what you usually do—” He yawned, “I’ll come and find you tonight.”

“En.” Wang Guangning didn’t ask him why he was so listless. Compared to Zhang Lingyi, the worries in his heart were heavier. Furthermore, Wang Guangning had a slightly guilty conscience and didn’t have the courage to question him.

Quietly hanging up the call, Wang Guangning moved a stool over to the balcony and grabbed a book to read.

Their balcony faced the southeast. During the morning, faint blossoms of sunlight would fall onto the body, resulting in a very pleasant feeling.

Wang Guangning stretched comfortably and decided that studying was more urgent, personal feelings should be put aside for now.

Hence, he opened his textbook and began to revise.

An hour later, Wang Guangning closed his book in irritation.

Why was his entire brain thinking of Zhang Lingyi against his control?

He wanted to know how Zhang Lingyi felt about him now, he wanted to know whether this kind of worrying about what might happen to them was normal between friends...fuck. *He couldn’t really be gay?!*

There was no way Wang Guangning could calm down and keep reading.

He scratched his head, annoyed. Wang Guangning had just decided to forget it and go back to sleep, when his phone rang.

It turned out to be Zhang Lingyi.

“*Shou shou*, where are you? I have something to give you.” Zhang Lingyi’s voice was still dispirited like before. Wang Guangning thought that it must be because he had gone back to sleep after taking his phone call this morning.

En, this should be Zhang Lingyi’s style.

Wang Guangning realised sorrowfully that he himself actually seemed to sort of understand Zhang Lingyi!

This way of thinking, if it wasn’t being good brother, then it must be because they were pretending to be a gay couple!

But friends wouldn’t get hard because of each other, right?

Wang Guangning felt slightly worried, and said, “I’m in my dorm.”

When Zhang Lingyi arrived, he was carrying a small potted plant and two take-away boxes.

“Ah? Is this what you said you wanted to give me?” , Wang Guangning took the small pot containing the Money Tree. Wasn’t this what he had bought for Zhang Lingyi in return for the other’s gift of the SpongeBob SquarePants pyjamas?

“*En*, I knew that *xiao shou* wasn’t diligent!” Zhang Lingyi said with an expression of disdain, “In the future, we must nurture a potted plant together, giving it water and letting in bask in the sun.”

“Ah!” Wang Guangning stared at the small pot in his hand and said, “We have to look after it like that? I haven’t even waited upon my mother like that!”

“That’s why I said *xiao shou* doesn’t have any compassion!” Zhang Lingyi hmped softly. Taking the potted plant, he walked over to the balcony. “This isn’t an ordinary potted plant, this is our son!”

Wang Guangning coughed, feeling that he had received a terrible fright. He watched blankly as Zhang Lingyi placed the potted plant on the sink in their balcony, a place where sunlight could just reach. His earnest expression really did reflect the behaviour of a father towards his son. Wang Guangning thought that he himself needed to be rescued for a bit, and clutched his heart while saying, “Zhang Lingyi, are there too many holes in your brain?”

Zhang Lingyi turned around and rolled his eyes. Wang Guangning felt that he could see through the other’s supercilious glare and glimpse the middle finger erected in Zhang Lingyi’s heart.

“In short, this will be our common property in the future. You nurture it for a month, and I’ll nurture it for a month. As long as you remember to let him bathe in the sun every day and don’t give him too much water, then it’ll be fine.” As Zhang Lingyi returned into the dormitory, he said, “Oh, right. I also gave him a name, Zhang Dafa¹!”

[1] : The name alludes to something like future prosperity and success. Zhang Lingyi named the plant this so it may bring them luck, I guess.

“Zhang Dafa?” Wang Guangning seemed to smell the burning scent of his hair being struck with lightning.

“Yes!” Zhang Lingyi was extremely proud and rubbed his hands in a vulgar manner, “Isn’t it very auspicious? The fact that it’s a Money Tree and has such a rich and honourable² name, it will definitely bring good luck! Ah, I was thinking for you!”

[2] : (Fu Gui) directly translates to ‘riches and honour’.

“But why is it surnamed³ Zhang?” This was the main point, alright? Since he was the son of them both, why was he named Zhang and not Wang?

[3] : also known as the family name.

Wang Guangning stared with wide eyes at the other man, completely unaware that the point he had brought up had been tilted crooked by Zhang Lingyi.

“Ah, it’s because I’m the *gong*!” Zhang Lingyi actually explained to him with seriousness. “When men and women marry, their children are named after their father’s surname. It’s the same principle, the son of a gay couple must also be named after the *xiao gong*~”

“No, it must not!” Wang Guangning opposed vigorously. *Bullshit, no matter what, he was also a pure man.* Wang Guangning had already lost face when he wore the title of ‘*shou*’, so if even the right to the child’s name was lost, did he still want any face? Instantly, he roared, “I am also a man, the child must take my surname. Besides, Wang Dafa sounds much better than Zhang Dafa!”

“Nonsense! How does Wang Dafa sound better?” Zhang Lingyi lifted his head in an upright manner, “Zhang Dafa is a very rousing name, hearing it will bring wealth and honour. If our child follows my surname, he will definitely flourish and grow every day!”

The veins on Wang Guangning’s forehead bulged and he was temporarily unable to find any words to overwhelm the other. Hence, the nerves in his brain broke and he struck the table fiercely, shouting, “I don’t care! He must be surnamed Wang. If you don’t let him be surnamed Wang, then you can nurture it yourself!”

That’s right! As a *shou*, he had the privilege of being arrogant and shameless.

Wang Guangning had been the *shou* for so long, and this was the first time he had discovered the benefit of being the *shou*!

Ah, these truly were bitter and miserable tears!

“How can you be like this?” Zhang Lingyi asked incredulously, his voice full of complaint.

“Hmph! I am happy!” Wang Guangning decided to be shameless to the end. Your sister, finding out that he had the inclination of turning this fake show into a real play was already enough painful for his balls. If he couldn’t even get the power to choose the surname for a potted plant, then what hope would he have for future days?

Zhang Lingyi probably didn’t expect that when Wang Guangning who had previously always self-claimed the title of having the temperament of a prince could actually be so unreasonable when he acted shameless. Tears streaked down his face and he said mournfully, “Then...then he’ll be surnamed Wang!”

Wuwuwu...child, your father can’t live up to your expectations! Father is useless, you have to take your mother’s surname!

Zhang Lingyi opened his take-away box while using his life to repair his mind.

Wang Guangning had successfully taken the right to choose the surname. Consequently, he began to open his take-away in a satisfied manner while saying, “What kind of take-away did you bring?”

Zhang Lingyi curled his lips, “Rice with green pepper and beef.”

“Oh~ Don’t tell me it’s cooked by a bald man, I heard that beef from bald men are all made from beef extract.” Wang Guangning’s words held slight dislike, but the movements of his hands did not stop. Although he was very fussy towards people and had many bad habits, he had one good point. That was, when other people gave him things, he wouldn’t despise it in front of them and his demeanour would still be particularly pleasant.

Zhang Lingyi squinted at him, “Are you mocking men who are bald? Or are you just mocking me?”

Wang Guangning glanced at Zhang Lingyi's shiny head and stared. Laughing, he said, "I had forgotten that you are now bald." *Although, he was a handsome bald.*

"Hmph!" Zhang Lingyi said, then reached out a hand to grab Wang Guangning's take-away box.

"What are you doing," Wang Guangning quickly dodged, "I wasn't deliberately talking about you, don't be so petty."

"Who's trying to taking your box." Zhang Lingyi felt extreme disapproval towards Wang Guangning's suspiciousness, "This take-away box was indeed bought from someone who is bald. If the beef isn't good, then don't eat it. I'll go out and buy you another one."

"No need." Wang Guangning wolfed down his food ferociously, afraid that Zhang Lingyi would really go out and buy him another one...

Brother, we are acting gay based on an agreement, not truly being gay. You don't need to be so conscientious.

Of course, he wouldn't say these words out loud. Lowering his head and immersing himself in his food, he said, "As a Chinese citizen, if I can't even digest this little bit of beef extract, then how can I be worthy of the country and its people."

Zhang Lingyi helplessly watched as Wang Guangning rapidly finished the food in his take-away box as the problem which had disturbed him for the entire night arose again.

Wang Guangning was indeed a person who was very deserving of making friends with. He knew how to joke, was magnanimous, and knew how to consider the needs of his friends. However, the other sentiments which Zhang Lingyi held...were they truly suitable to exist between the two of them?

"Oh, right. What are we doing tomorrow?" Wang Guangning cleared his food, and thought of another matter. Even though they were pretending to

be gay, he had always been just been dragged along by Zhang Lingyi. He basically only knew of the task they needed to do as a gay couple on the day. For example, this nurturing potted plants together task...was really too , so he had better ask in advance!

“Ah, tomorrow...” Zhang Lingyi stared up at the ceiling in thought, “I think tomorrow it’s supposed to be...get drenched together in the rain...”

Wang Guangning, “.....”

Zhang Lingyi, “.....”

With an expression of solemnity, Wang Guangning asked, “Then, did you check tomorrow’s weather forecast yet?”

Zhang Lingyi replied, “No, I haven’t.” While speaking, he opened his phone.

The facts proved that God had his own consciousness and wouldn’t make way for someone just because they were handsome.

It was expected that tomorrow’s weather would be sunny.

“En, we can only pray that the weather forecast will be wrong like in the past.” Wang Guangning touched his chin.

Zhang Lingyi was more optimistic than him and put away his phone while saying, “Let nature take its course for matters like the weather. If it rains tomorrow, we’ll go and run about wildly in the rain. If it doesn’t rain, we can just take a break! Continuously being gay for so many days is actually quite tiring, we should seize the opportunity and have a rest!”

Have a rest...

Wang Guangning felt that he had received an internal injury.

However, since Zhang Lingyi felt that being gay was quite tiring, did that mean he did not take as much pleasure in this matter as he seemed to be?

Therefore, was this nothing but a boring play that had started because they wanted to retaliate against society but had strayed further and further off the track?

Wang Guangning surveyed Wang Dafa in his pot bathing under the sun outside and suddenly felt...extremely unhappy!

They have a child now~ (' ') *: *instates myself as the one of the godparents*

I made a mistake in Chapter 12, which I have now corrected. At the end of the chapter, Wang Guangning refers to himself as *zhen* and calls Zhang Lingyi 'xiao yizi' (: [name]) which is actually how an eunuch would be called by the emperor. I apologise for the misunderstanding > . <

ZLY: *edges closer to WGN* *Shou shou...*

WGN: *ignores him*

ZLY: *persists in plastering himself against WGN* (' 3 ')

WGN: *shoves ZLY away* *Xiao yizi*, get los-

ZLY: <()> What did you call me? I'm not an eunuch!

ZLY: *points at his lower half* Look! ()

WGN: *glances at the place* *smirks*

ZLY:

WGN: 丿 (▽) 乚 You're definitely an eunuch!

ZLY: (丿 °-°) 丿 ㄣ (丿 °□°) 丿 ㄣ

=

The author has something to say: Small Theatre

Wang Guangning: Baby, be good. You'll now be called Wang Dafa!

Wang Dafa: ~~~~ >_<)~~~~ Can I change the name?

Wang Guangning: Then...Wang Fugui?

Wang Dafa: The name Dafa is quite good, just call me that~!

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 020

020

**“When riding a bicycle, you must choose one that has a horizontal bar
and no backseat”**

***day sixteen | when on a bus, you must not use the handrails as support
and can only embrace the other’s waist. secretly kiss the other and rub
against their face***



Reality proved that the weather bureau was a woman. Moreover, she was an erratic woman.

When you wished that she would be accurate, she would be as accurate as the great aunt¹. When you wished that she wouldn’t be accurate...she would be accurate.

[1] : translates to ‘great aunt’, which is used to refer to periods. So basically, the weather would not be accurate at all ~ *sighs*

Therefore, it was not only women and narrow-minded men who were difficult to deal with. The weather forecast was as well.

Hence, on this day, the weather forecast proudly announced——*today it is sunny, so everyone please get up and sleep early and exercise more. For people who need to air their quilts, please don’t waste any time and quickly do so.*

When Wang Guangning woke up in the morning and saw the bright sunshine outside the window, he decided that he had better go and study

with Sun Siyang.

En, real men ought to attach the most importance to their work. True decent and honourable behaviour was properly studying and improving oneself every day.

Just as he was preparing to climb down from his bed and freshen up, Zhang Lingyi called him.

“*Shou shou*, look out of the window.” Zhang Lingyi’s voice surged with enthusiasm.

Wang Guangning subconsciously glanced out just like he had habitually done in the past. His expression did not change and instead, he said impatiently, “What for?”

Zhang Lingyi laughed happily, “Did you see that bright and dazzling sunshine?”

Wang Guangning, “.....” *What exactly are you trying to say?*

“*Shou shou*, the weather is so good and shouldn’t waste such an opportunity. How about we go and ride a bus together?” Zhang Lingyi said. “I’ll come and find you at your dorm in fifteen minutes~”

Then he directly hung up the call.

Wang Guangning thought, (ㄟ_ㄟ)# *didn’t we say that we would take a break from being gay today?*

Although he was completely dissatisfied with Zhang Lingyi’s actions which were even more fickle than the weather forecast, Wang Guangning still quickly made himself presentable. Changing into a college styled shirt and paired with his short hair, Wang Guangning radiated youthfulness, looking neat and bright.

Zhang Lingyi wore a black sweater, with a hat covering his bald head. His hands were placed in his pockets, appearing very casual.

Scanning Wang Guangning from top to bottom, Zhang Lingyi smiled in satisfaction and said, “*En*, not bad. We’re indeed quite well-matched. Let’s go!”

Wang Guangning rolled his eyes and silently cursed in his heart, *who’s well-matched with you! Laozi is a hundred times more handsome than you!*

Even though he held an expression of unwillingness, Zhang Lingyi still followed Wang Guangning, his feet hitting the ground unfalteringly.

After walking a few steps, Zhang Lingyi found that Wang Guangning always ended up falling behind him. Reaching out with his arm, he seized Wang Guangning’s shoulder and smiled mischievously. “*Shou shou*, don’t stand so far away~ Otherwise, how will people know that we are together?”

Wang Guangning replied with disdain, “That’s because I actually don’t want people to know. With your appearance, those who don’t know might think you’re going to rob a bank!”

What Wang Guangning said was indeed correct. Although Zhang Lingyi was handsome, it was no match for his polished and shiny head. It was like he had just been released, and added with such a hat, Zhang Lingyi appeared suspiciously sneaky.

“Get lost! *Laozi* is elegant and graceful, with one look, you can tell that that I’m an elite of society. Even if I’m bald, it can’t restrict my natural temperament.” Zhang Lingyi laughed while reaching over to forcefully ruffle Wang Guangning’s fluffy head. “Besides, disregarding me, you’re not that much better off either!” *With such short hair, it had just grown a few days earlier than him, that’s all.*

Zhang Lingyi’s hand was large, and it practically covered the majority of Wang Guangning’s head. His palm was very warm, and the temperature as Zhang Lingyi stroked his hair was something which Wang Guangning was unable to describe with words. That kind of warmth, it seemed like it would flow down from his scalp, straight towards...his heart.

He must really be incurable!

Wang Guangning slapped his own head in defeat. Upon seeing this, Zhang Lingyi thought that the other was tacitly agreeing to his words. Smiling happily, he said. “Don’t be dejected, you must be filled with hope for yourself. You can be the second most handsome guy at F University!”

Not in the mood to bicker with him, Wang Guangning grabbed Zhang Lingyi’s hand that was still on his head with force. Turning it in the air, Wang Guangning threw the hand on Zhang Lingyi’s own head. In a bad-natured manner, he said, “Don’t touch me. If you want to touch, then touch your own head.”

Zhang Lingyi saw that Wang Guangning’s ill expression and didn’t dare to be too rash. He only curled his lips and muttered quietly, “And you’re supposed to be my *shou*. You won’t even let me touch your head, you must be a very stingy and proud *shou*!”

That’s right, as the person in charge of the student association, Zhang Lingyi was well-known to be very dedicated and professional. He had already formed that habit of putting in his utmost no matter what it was he did. Pretending to be gay was the same!

Through a period of study, Zhang Lingyi had already perfected all the technical terms from the *danmei* world. He had also entered the discussion circle of rotten women without much pressure. Thus, he had then made a logical and concise summary of Wang Guangning and his attributes. The final conclusion was that he himself was very handsome and domineering, combined with a simple and honest character. (orz Zhang *xiao cao*, how exactly did you think of this? Please give me guidance.) He was definite a loyal dog and an emperor type of *gong*. As for Wang Guangning, no matter how you looked at him, his entire body from top to bottom emitted the words ‘arrogant but loveable’.

Ah, it truly was an insightful analysis that made one unable to look straight at it!

The bus that the two people were taking was the one which operated in a circle around F University and various other high schools around the same area.

There were four other schools near F University, and the distance was neither too far nor very close. Students could reach each school simply by cycling. However, for those who relied on pure power and did not own a bicycle, such interaction did require comparatively more effort. Thus, a short-term public transport line was opened specifically between these five schools.

Usually, it would be overcrowded on this public transport line. However, since it was near the end of term, students were all frantically studying so there were scarcely any people on the bus.

Wang Guangning swiped his card and stepped onto the bus, secretly sighing in relief. Fortunately there weren't many people and he didn't see anyone he knew. Otherwise, he really would have the thickness of his face put to test.

There were still countless spare seats on the bus. Wang Guangning touched his face, and estimated that if he sat down in one, Zhang Lingyi would definitely pull him up right in front of the eyes of everyone else. Hence, he automatically walked towards the center door and leaned against the pole next to it.

Zhang Lingyi followed behind him. Yet, before he had balanced himself, the driver stepped on the throttle.

"Fuck." Zhang Lingyi had wanted to take the opportunity to touch Wang Guangning's waist but was not careful enough and did not end up standing firmly. With a *boom*, his entire person directly fell onto the ground.

Such a good standard dog position!

Such an incomparable way of saying fuck!

The expression on Wang Guangning's face stiffened and he glanced around furtively. Sure enough, the focus of everyone on the bus was on Zhang Lingyi's body. Their faces clearly showed sympathy yet carried a hint of *schadenfreude*, as if they wanted to laugh but also wanted to restrain themselves from doing so. Only, they were unsuccessful in their attempts.

Wang Guangning silently moved a few steps away. *Fuck, this really was too shameful! He must definitely not let others know that they were together!*

Zhang Lingyi appeared to also be wounded, and his face was still on the floor. He did not get up even after a long time.

Wang Guangning didn't need to be sensitive of his reputation and face to the point of this, right?!

Wang Guangning's mouth twitched and he struggled fiercely with his conscience. Just when he was hesitating about whether or not to walk over and give him a hand, Zhang Lingyi suddenly raised his head; the hat on his head dropped and exposed his bald head. He stared at Wang Guangning with bleary eyes while reaching out with one hand as he said, "..... I'm.....not drunk....."

Wang Guangning, "....."

Other people on the bus, "....."

Wang Guangning, "Wow, ha ha ha ha..."

How come Zhang Lingyi could always come up with such cheap tricks?

Wang Guangning was shocked until he ended up laughing without end, causing the other people on the bus to also give up trying to restrain themselves as they all laughed heartily.

The distance between the stations on this public transport line were quite short, so they very quickly arrived at the next one. Wang Guangning immediately escaped from this bus, praying that the people inside would not remember him.

Zhang Lingyi also jumped down with an expression of discontent. "Shou shou, how can you be like this? You watched me fall and actually didn't help me."

Wang Guangning's face was filled with black lines, "Didn't you improvise very well?" In all honesty, this sentence he spoke was absolutely not a

compliment.

However, it seemed that Zhang Lingyi's narcissism had apparently exceeded the horizon. Instead of feeling ashamed, he beamed happily and said, "Ah, of course~ In any case, I am also a scholarship recipient so my brain is very reliable."

Wang Guangning, "....."

"But *shou shou*, why did you get off the bus? I haven't hugged your waist or rubbed against your face yet!" Zhang Lingyi was very distressed.

Wang Guangning exploded, "Who says you're the one who has to hug my waist!"

Zhang Lingyi replied unhappily, "Could it be that you want someone else to hug your waist?!"

It was only then that Wang Guangning realised the ambiguity in his own words and said, "What I mean is that if we need to do this, then I should be the one hugging your waist!"

Hearing this, Zhang Lingyi straightened up, "I am the *gong*!"

He used this card every time!

Wang Guangning strongly wished to kneel down in a world of ice and snow and pray for an eight pack...*ah*, no. He wanted to pray for time to reverse so that when he threw that coin, he would throw a 1!

Wang Guangning's eyes burned furiously with anger and he glared at Zhang Lingyi's nose. One word at a time, he said, "I. Am. Ticklish!"

"*Pfft*——" This time it was Zhang Lingyi who was unable to restrain himself as he looked towards the sky and laughed crazily. "Wow...*ha ha ha ha ha*..."

Wang Guangning's ears flushed. With no other alternative, he ultimately hmped in fury before flinging back his head and leaving.

Zhang Lingyi quickly chased after him as he tried to stop his laughter, “Alright, *shou shou*. Since it’s like this, I’ll give you my ‘thin waist’ to hug!”

Wang Guangning took a glimpse of his ‘thin waist’ and decided that later, he must take the chance to strangle Zhang Lingyi’s waist!

The two people followed the public transport line and headed back. They hadn’t walked far when Zhang Lingyi was unable to endure and said, “*Shou shou*, let’s go and ride a bicycle!” The place they had just passed was a little shop which rented out bicycles.

There were many bicycle rental points along this bus route between F University and the other schools. It basically met all the needs of people from other areas who came to travel here. Furthermore, many of the rental shops had branches at other schools. In other words, the bicycle one rented at the shop in this school would still be fine to ride at another school if it was the same boss, which made it very convenient.

Wang Guangning silently gazed at the road extended before them and calculated the distance in his heart. Finally, he said impatiently, “Fine.”

Zhang Lingyi cheered loudly and ran into the rental shop next to them, beginning to choose a bicycle.

With black lines covering his forehead, Wang Guangning followed.

“*Shou shou*, what about this one?” Zhang Lingyi pointed at one of the bicycles with an eager expression.

Wang Guangning followed the path of his arm, then his entire face momentarily turned black, “This bicycle doesn’t have a backseat, alright?” *Were they supposed to have one person stand on the wheels like those in circus acts?*

Revealing a lascivious expression, Zhang Lingyi laughed in a *hehe* manner and said, “Don’t you see the horizontal bar at the front?”

What happened to being elegant and graceful, Zhang Lingyi? 😊😊😊

Hope you all had a laugh with this chapter, and the next one will be out later
~

I've have a few people comment and ask me about whether this novel has plans to be turned in a webseries, but I don't think there is currently any news to suggest that possibility. However, there is an audio, which can be found here: <https://www.bilibili.com/video/av3683777/> and <https://www.bilibili.com/video/av7138864/>. It's only two episodes, but it goes up to chapter 25. (*'▽'*)/

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 021

021

“When riding a bicycle together...make sure your heart doesn’t beat too fast~”

day sixteen | when on a bus, you must not use the handrails as support and can only embrace the other’s waist. secretly kiss the other and rub against their face



As a youth who had never dated and had always been the one pursued by others, Zhang Lingyi was originally quite ignorant about the uses of bicycles.

At least, that was only until there was a day when one of his dormmates got a girlfriend and bought a bicycle which only had a horizontal bar and no backseat. Back then, Zhang Lingyi had laughed when he saw that the bicycle didn’t even have a backseat. He had jokingly warned the other to be careful in case his girlfriend ran off with someone else whose bicycle had a backseat.

At that time, his dormmate had only given him a lascivious and disdainful, yet also deeply meaningful smile.

Two days later, Zhang Lingyi watched as his dormmate passed by him on his bicycle with his girlfriend. It was then that he finally realised how foolish and naïve he had been.

Ah, it turned out that the places you could carry people on bicycles weren’t only on the backseat!

Hence, Zhang Lingyi decided to wait for the day when he also got a girlfriend and try it too.

Was there any other weapon more direct than these kind of bicycles which allowed girls to throw themselves at him?

Ah, of course there definitely weren't!

Zhang Lingyi had fantasised about such scenes many times. Unfortunately, as a narcissistic sophomore, Zhang Lingyi had never yet encountered a girl who made him want to buy a bicycle with a horizontal bar.

Although he currently didn't have a girlfriend, he at least had a boyfriend now!

While thinking this, he glanced over at Wang Guangning's fresh and clean features. Zhang Lingyi felt that he was indeed more pleasing to the eye than those girls.

However, he didn't expect that his 'first time' would actually be offered to Wang Guangning. Zhang Lingyi felt extremely sad, yet also faintly..... excited.

If Wang Guangning had a few incense sticks in his hand right now, he would definitely give Zhang Lingyi several stabs on his bald head without hesitation and let the other become a monk.

Couldn't this idiot be normal for even a moment?

After dealing with Zhang Lingyi for so long, even though Wang Guangning had already been frustrated to the point of *orz* and was howling in grief and suffering, his outward expression was still very much calm and collected. "Then, are you prepared to sit on that horizontal bar?"

Zhang Lingyi had just been imagining the scene of Wang Guangning sitting on the bar with a bashful expression as he hid in Zhang Lingyi's embrace. With a face full of expectation, Zhang Lingyi suddenly stiffened upon

hearing Wang Guangning's question. Laughing, he said, "How is that possible?" Of course it's you who will sit on the horizontal bar~!

However, the second half of the sentence was automatically silenced after he saw Wang Guangning's complexion.

A wise man would submit to the circumstances, and as talented¹ *xiao cao*, Zhang Lingyi was not only handsome¹, but also a genius¹!

[1] (*jun*): this entire sentence was basically a play on words. means intelligent, handsome, and/or talented. The latter half of the sentence is saying that Zhang Lingyi is both *ying jun* (handsome) and *jun jie* (elite/genius)

Hence, they finally ended up renting a bicycle with a backseat. Zhang Lingyi gazed reluctantly at the bicycle without a horizontal bar and heaved a great sigh. The only thing worth celebrating was that Wang Guangning was ticklish so he would have to sit in the backseat and hug Zhang Lingyi's waist.

If it was on the bus, then the person hugging from behind must definitely be the *gong*. But on the bicycle ~

Ha ha ha.

With the *gong*'s authority to take initiative once again returned to his hands, Zhang Lingyi was very satisfied.

Consequently, a scene in defiance of the natural order appeared in G city's public transport circle of a certain district where well-known universities and colleges were assembled.

The handsome and elegant *xiao cao* of F University, Zhang Lingyi, appeared riding the same bicycle as the similarly handsome and elegant Wang Guangning.

It was a known fact that the roads around the vicinity of these universities and colleges were basically all flat and clean, lined with trees on either side.

As it was far from the commercial centre, not many vehicles such as cars passed by here, with the majority being public buses or student bicycles. It was inevitable that these paths would be crowned with the reputation of being the ‘Lovers’ Roads.’

The public transport circle was of course no exception.

As a result, Wang Guangning felt considerably ill at ease and cramped sitting behind Zhang Lingyi on the bicycle. What made him even more uncomfortable was Zhang Lingyi’s continuous urging to hug the other tightly from behind.

= = *That was a face full of blood, alright?* According to the initial plan, the person hugging from behind should be very aggressive like a *gong*. So how come the plot changed dramatically and he had fallen into the *xiao shou* pit again?

Wang Guangning self-reflected silently.

After waiting for a long time, Zhang Lingyi who was sitting in front still did not feel Wang Guangning’s arms. He impatiently urged, “*Shou shou*, why are you dawdling so much? Quickly hug me~!”

Say, Zhang *xiao cao*, does your tone dare to become even more impatient?

In a helpless manner, Wang Guangning slowly wound his arms around Zhang Lingyi’s waist.

From where Wang Guangning was sitting, Zhang Lingyi’s back appeared very broad. The winter clothes Zhang Lingyi wore were thick, so he couldn’t see the texture of the other’s muscles. However, Wang Guangning had fought against Zhang Lingyi for many bouts. Therefore, he knew that beneath those clothes, Zhang Lingyi had lean muscles which while may not be particularly robust, were quite strong and healthy.

Zhang Lingyi’s waist wasn’t thick, and Wang Guangning could just about embrace the other with both hands. Although they were separated by

clothes, their close distance caused the two people's hearts to simultaneously tremble for a moment.

That kind of odd palpitation once again attacked their thoughts.

It was the sort of feeling where they wanted to be closer and hug the other person even tighter, but could only repress those emotions and force themselves to move away.

It felt completely strange.

Zhang Lingyi's nerves were quite thick, and he detected his own abnormal agitation. He seemed to be somewhat embarrassed, but fortunately Wang Guangning was sitting behind him and couldn't see. He pretended as if nothing was wrong and changed the subject, "*Shou shou*, where is your head? Quickly lean against my back~"

But Wang Guangning didn't catch his words properly, as his heart was beating too fast. It was to the point that he had no way of being able to hear the sounds around him.

At the end of the term, the roads around the public transport circle were peaceful. Now and then, a bicycle or bus would pass by them. During winter in the south, the trees were still as verdant as before. It was merely that the leaves were more sparse. Soft rays of sunshine peeked through those leaves and fragments of light sprinkled onto their bodies.

Lost in thought, Wang Guangning watched as the trees on either side slowly fell back as they passed, and his palms tightened little by little.

He wasn't gay, but it seemed as if he felt somewhat moved towards a man he had once extremely disliked.

This truly was a crazy world.

"*Shou shou!*" Zhang Lingyi was still persevering in his shouts to Wang Guangning. "Can you not let your mind wander when on a date with me?"

Wang Guangning slightly recovered his mind and powerlessly rested his head against Zhang Lingyi's back. *En, it was very broad and very warm.*

"It's a pity that you can't lean your head on my shoulder and then speak next to my ear." Zhang Lingyi sighed with regret.

The corner of Wang Guangning's eye twitched, *Zhang Lingyi, do you dare to invest yourself even more into this?*

"Zhang Lingyi." Wang Guangning abruptly opened his mouth and asked, "Other than Yu Haining, have you ever liked another girl?"

Upon hearing Wang Guangning's unexpected question, Zhang Lingyi's mind was momentarily blank. Failing to understand, he answered, "Why are you suddenly bringing this up?"

"I'm just casually asking." Wang Guangning replied nonchalantly.

"Ah, well." Zhang Lingyi gazed up, "I guess Zihui." He paused for a second, then continued, "She's pretty good."

'Like' was quite a vague word, and Zhang Lingyi had never truly liked a person before. He only felt that Luo Zihui was a woman who didn't give him pressure, so she should be worthy of being liked.

In his original plan, Luo Zihui was indeed a person he found suitable to be with him.

"Is that so?" Wang Guangning's hands which were wrapped around Zhang Lingyi's waist tightened, then immediately loosened again. "That's good then!"

This entire agreement was initially just a farce, so when it ended, they would both just separately continue onto their own paths.

"Oh, right. *Shou shou*, let's go to my house together tomorrow after we finish the linear algebra exam." Zhang Lingyi appeared to unexpectedly not want to continue discussing about Luo Zihui and changed the topic. "We can cook together."

At F University, linear algebra was equal to advanced mathematics. Apart from language, literature and law, this was a subject which all majors needed to study. Hence, the entire university undertook this exam.

Furthermore, the university considered the fact that everyone's strength would be greatly wounded after finishing this exam, so there would be two days of vacation given for students to adjust themselves.

Of course, this wasn't a matter worthy of celebrating for the students. The longer the time period between each exam, the longer they would have to torment themselves.

Zhang Lingyi's plan was that they could take a rest at his house for the two days after the linear algebra exam. After all, there was no one at home and it was more comfortable to revise there.

Wang Guangning immediately recalled that on that guide, the seventeenth task for couples was to cook a meal together. No matter whether I tasted delicious or not, they both had to finish eating while wearing a smile.

Zhang Lingyi truly was extremely assiduous and unflagging in his efforts.

However, for Wang Guangning, this entire matter was initially something which had completely lacked any significance, and he had only treated it as a joke. But now, he had already derailed and sunk into a quagmire in which he found difficult to extricate himself from.

Wang Guangning knew very clearly that ceasing all this was what he should do at this moment.

Yet, the words which escaped his mouth were, "Alright."

This must be the work of demons and gods².

[2] : idiom which refers to an unexplained event that cries out for a supernatural explanation.

(㐁 㐁)Had internet connection issues due to bad weather so I wasn't able to post earlier, but here's two chapters (*°▽°*) /

So, I did a bit of research, and this is what I found ~

Loyal dog type *gong* – their personality resembles the loyalty and devotion of dogs. They are firmly dedicated to their *xiao shou*. They match well with queen type *shou*.

Queen type *shou* – their personality is like that of a queen, arrogant and proud, brimming with superiority. They also cause others to can't help but acknowledge their charisma beneath the haughty exterior. During H, they have the authority to take initiative. They match well with the loyal dog type *gong*.

Emperor type *gong* – their temperament is aloof and remote, and they have the aura similar to that of an emperor. It is also difficult to make them yield or bow their head. They are part of the valiant class *gong*.

...Zhang Lingyi, I don't think you're an emperor type *gong*? (;)

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 022

022

“Cooking together...what is this demon flavour?!”

day seventeen | cook a meal together. regardless of whether the food is delicious, it must be finished with a smile



“*Shou shou*, what dishes are you preparing to make?” While throwing vegetables into a small trolley, Zhang Lingyi watched with curiosity at Wang Guangning’s serious appearance as he stared at two small boxes of pork belly and compared them.

They were at a large supermarket near Zhang Lingyi’s house. They had just finished their exam in the morning and Zhang Lingyi had kidnapped Wang Guangning over.

As it was during a day shift, there weren’t many people. Zhang Lingyi strolled around contentedly and grabbed quite a few things while he was it. In any case, they would be at his house for the next two days so they could just store up more food.

However, Wang Guangning’s manner as he chose the food was quite clumsy.....uh, quite cautious.

“Hmph. I’m preparing to make something that will startle the gods and move the devils.....twice-cooked pork belly!” When he finished speaking, Wang Guangning finally chose one from the two boxes of pork belly.

“O_O You’re so capable!” Zhang Lingyi was very surprised. While the method of cooking this dish was not hard, it was difficult to make it taste delicious. It was easy to accidentally overcook the meat, add too much oil, or not have suitable ingredients.

However, upon seeing Wang Guangning’s confident manner as if he had a card up his sleeve, Zhang Lingyi thought that his previous behaviour of looking down on Wang Guangning just because of the other’s slow way of choosing food was incorrect.

That is, even though he couldn’t tell what was so good about the food picked out by Wang Guangning after comparing them with others for half a day.

Hence, the two people roamed around leisurely for an hour. In the end, the food that Wang Guangning had reaped were the pork belly, chilli, Chinese onions, fresh ginger and garlic.

Zhang Lingyi’s harvest was...a completely full trolley filled with countless food.

Wang Guangning frowned as he watched Zhang Lingyi stuff the vegetables, meat and snacks into his environmentally friendly bag. “You bought so much food, are you going to cook all of it?”

Without lifting his head, Zhang Lingyi replied, “If I can’t cook it, why would I buy them? Could it be that you can’t cook everything that you have bought?”

Wang Guangning, “.....” *En, understanding recipes could be counted as knowing how to cook, right?* He silently touched the phone in his pocket. Thinking of the recipes he had saved in it, Wang Guangning felt a little more at ease.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were both the only children of their family. However, it was very obvious that their cooking skills couldn’t be simply described with the phrase ‘a world of difference’.

The reason for this difference was because Wang Guangning had always lived with his parents, while Zhang Lingyi's parents were usually out working in other places.

Zhang Lingyi silently stood at one side as he watched Wang Guangning awkwardly chopping the chilli.

Reality proved that people who were good at studying weren't necessarily capable in putting that into practice. For example, Wang Guangning. Although he could memorise the recipe for twice-cooked pork belly after reading it once, but in reality, actually using the pots, bowls, ladles and even the chopping knife was not as easy to grasp as stated in the recipes. Despite already being very cautious and solemn, the chilli chopped by Wang Guangning were all uneven in size and severely unbalanced.

Zhang Lingyi stared at the tragic sight on the kitchen counter and finally was unable to bear it any longer. "Do you need me to help you?"

"I don't need any!" Wang Guangning flew into a rage out of humiliation, thinking Zhang Lingyi was mocking him. Hence, he brought the knife down forcefully, wanting to score a victory in an imposing manner. Only.....

"Fuck!" A small piece of chilli bounced up into Wang Guangning's eye and he promptly raised his hand to rub at it. As a person who had no cooking experience, he naturally didn't know that hands shouldn't be used to directly knead the eye when chopping chilli.

"Ah, don't use you hand to rub your eye!" Zhang Lingyi immediately moved to pull Wang Guangning's hand away, but he was already too late. Consequently, in the next second, Wang Guangning began to stomp and hop about due to the chilli. "Fuck. Fuck. It stings! It stings!"

Zhang lingyi didn't know whether to laugh or cry as he stared at the rare scene of Wang Guangning appearing stupid. Shaking his head, he pressed on the tap and said, "Quickly wash it with fresh water."

Then he went to get another bowl and filled it with a bit of white vinegar mixed with water. Finding a towel, he said, "Come, I'll wipe it for you."

Wang Guangning lifted his head from the tap; his eyes already faintly swollen. There was a tug in Zhang Lingyi's heart and he said softly, "Don't move your hand. I'll wipe it for you, and it'll get better soon."

Following that, he moistened the towel and then carefully rubbed Wang Guangning's eye.

Wang Guangning's eyes were closed while he muttered, "Why is it so spicy? This is unscientific!"

He didn't have any common sense, yet dared to blame science!

Zhang Lingyi silently disdained him, but upon seeing Wang Guangning's uncomfortable complexion, didn't end up saying anything.

After wiping it with white vinegar, Wang Guangning could finally open his eyes. Although it was still slightly swollen and uncomfortable, it wasn't as serious as before. Hence, he once again rolled up his sleeves and returned to the kitchen counter.

Zhang Lingyi gazed at Wang Guangning as well as the kitchen in concern. "Shou shou, how about I cook instead?"

"That won't do!" Wang Guangning said with a hmph. "Don't look down on me, I will definitely cook a delicacy capable of startling the gods and moving the devils!" *In any case, he had spent time to download that recipe, so how could he just waste it?*

Furthermore, people who went into the kitchen to prepare a meal for the first time would always carry an incomprehensible excitement.

Upon hearing Wang Guangning's words, Zhang Lingyi was even more horrified. Looking at the other's clumsy appearance, the food made by Wang Guangning might not startle the gods, but he was afraid it would really move the devils!

Zhang Lingyi still wanted to attempt to persuade him, but Wang Guangning shot a glare at him. Pressing both of his hands on Zhang Lingyi shoulders,

Wang Guangning pushed him out. “Zhang Lingyi, you go out. Wait until I’m finished and then you can come back in.”

It must be because Zhang Lingyi had stood at the side and disturbed him so everything hadn’t proceeded smoothly!

Wang Guangning found an exceptionally good excuse for his own mistake.

Hence, Zhang Lingyi sat in the living room with fear and trepidation in his heart as he listened to the *ping ping pang pang* noises mixed with the occasional sound of chinaware shattering as it transferred from the kitchen.

Inside, Zhang Lingyi wailed in anguish. *What exactly was Wang Guangning doing? Did he bomb the kitchen?* As for every time he attempted to approach the kitchen, Wang Guangning would fly into a rage and roar at him to go away.

Zhang Lingyi endured the double torment to his ears and mind while also silently encouraging himself and boosting his morale. *A good xiao gong ought to forgive their shou shou without reason or a bottom line!*

Thereupon, after a seemingly endless hour had passed, Wang Guangning finally waved a hand in command and summoned *xiao* Zhang. “Zhang Lingyi, I’m done. It’s your turn now.”

Zhang Lingyi drew in a couple of deep breaths. After completing adequate preparation, he finally pasted on a nonchalant expression and entered the kitchen.

Yi, the kitchen was unexpectedly very normal!

Zhang Lingyi’s eyes brightened and he silently denounced himself. He shouldn’t judge people.....uh, cooking skills based on the sounds he heard.

So it turned out that Wang Guangning’s cooking only sounded frightening, but the process should still be quite good?

Feeling gratitude, Zhang Lingyi glanced at Wang Guangning, only to find Wang Guangning’s complexion was somewhat unnatural. It was slightly

stiff and he was even blushing.

Yi, shou shou could actually blush? So miraculous!

“*Shou shou*, is this your twice-cooked pork belly? Let me have a look.” Zhang Lingyi saw that there was a plate with a lid covering it sitting on the dining table and presumed that it was Wang Guangning’s work. As he said this, he went to take the lid off the plate.

“You’re not allowed.” Wang Guangning swatted his hand away and glared at him. He said snappily, “Quickly make your dishes.”

“Why are you so fierce!” Zhang Lingyi curled his lips and secretly cursed inside. *Why are you making it so mysterious? Sooner or later, you will have to take it out for me to see!*

Finishing his silent cursing, Zhang chef rolled up his sleeved in a practiced manner to begin cooking.

Then.....

“Yi, how come there seems to be so many more plates?” In regards to the highly amiss number of plates in the cupboard, Zhang Lingyi could only stare blankly. *En, it wasn’t just limited to the plates, the amount of bowls also seemed to be wrong...*

An ominous feeling appeared in Zhang Lingyi’s heart. He silently scanned the kitchen counter, where the quantity of oil, salt, soy sauce and vinegar was also wrong. A few of those bottles were clearly ones which he had just bought, but now they all contained less than a third of their original amount.

In that one hour when he wasn’t in the kitchen, exactly what had happened?

Zhang Lingyi knew that under these types of circumstances, the truth was usually in the rubbish bin. Thus, taking advantage of when Wang Guangning was paying attention, he stealthily shifted over next to the bin.

The rubbish bin was closely packed.....with fragments of chinaware, as well as suspicious objects which were charred and greasy. Based on the

colour of the edges of those objects that hadn't yet been completely scorched, Zhang Lingyi judged that it should be the chilli and...*en*, seemed like pork belly strips!

Ah, this truly was a bitter situation!

Zhang Lingyi silently consoled himself.

Since the matter had already reached to this point, it was better to not investigate further!

Two drops of bitter tears flowed from Zhang Lingyi's eyes. Then he summoned his spirits and quickly threw himself into cooking.

Zhang Lingyi's cooking skills were evidently on a different level compared to Wang Guangning. Before an hour had passed, two steaming and delicious dishes were placed onto the dining table.

Wang Guangning stretched his head and saw that they were satay beef and crab meat with tofu.

The soup of the satay beef was dense and creamy, appearing quite glossy. The exotic aroma of the dish assailed his olfactory senses.

The crab meat with tofu gave the impression of looking even more exquisite, causing one's appetite to increase even further.

Wang Guangning felt as if he was somewhat laden with grief.

"Let's eat!" Zhang Lingyi carried over two bowls of rice and beamed as he said, "Let me experience your twice-cooked pork belly that startles the gods and moves the devils!"

In all honesty, Zhang Lingyi wasn't trying to be sarcastic when he spoke these words.

But Wang Guangning's ears flushed upon hearing it, and he covered the plate with both of his hands, "Forget about it, let's not eat this today."

“Ah, don’t *shou shou*!” Zhang Lingyi quickly pushed away Wang Guangning’s hands, With an expression of righteousness, he said, “Don’t worry, I won’t look down on you.”

“Who’s afraid of you looking down on them?” Wang Guangning gave up and unfolded his hands. “I’m only afraid that you’ll be unable to stop yourself from eating more later on.”

No matter what, he mustn’t lose face. He should first take control of the atmosphere.

Hence, Zhang Lingyi prepared himself mentally while opening the lid of the dish.

En, only when he had mentally prepared himself could he be capable of holding an unperturbed expression.

Zhang Lingyi calmly stared at the plate.....where there was roughly only one-quarter the original amount of pork belly they had bought. He succeeded in not permitting his true feelings from splitting open.

“Ah, *shou shou*’s cooked this quite well!” Zhang Lingyi said, with one hand covering his chest. Indeed, his words were so false that it made one unable to look straight.

In any case, judging from the colour of the chillies, they should still be undercooked. So how come the Chinese onions were so black? And the fresh ginger, didn’t they seem to be cut into too large a piece?

As for the main lead of this dish, Mr Pork Belly, why were the edges evidently burnt, yet the center parts seemingly still raw?

Fuck, was Wang Guangning the personal disciple of their cafeteria’s Head Chef?

This wasn’t scientific, alright? Even when he cooked for the first time, there was no way he could have been able to completely burn one side of a piece of meat, but keep the other side raw.

Zhang Lingyi really wanted to kneel to Wang Guangning.

As a result of Zhang Lingyi's words, Wang Guangning's eyes shone and he said, "Really? Then you should quickly eat it!" As he spoke, Wang Guangning enthusiastically grabbed a large piece of pork belly with his chopsticks and moved it towards Zhang Lingyi's mouth.

Who told you to lie?! Who told you to lie?!

A person who speaks false words must swallow a thousand needles 千针万刺!

Don't think that just by adopting a sincere expression, I won't see the twitching at the corner of your lips!

Wang Guangning's heart truly was extremely petty.

At this moment, Zhang Lingyi deeply admired his own skill. Confronted with that piece of...pork belly that was almost within reach, his expression unexpectedly did not change. "En, I'll eat it. You should eat too."

Then, like a hero meeting his death unflinchingly, Zhang Lingyi swallowed it into his mouth.

Ah, what kind of demon flavour was this?!

Was this an unavoidable test that every man who became a loyal dog and emperor type *gong* had to face?

The tears in Zhang Lingyi's heart had already become a river.

Wang Guangning didn't expect that Zhang lingyi would really eat it. Looking at the other's expression as if he was suffering yet still enduring silently, Wang Guangning restrained himself and didn't laugh. "How does it taste?"

Expressionlessly, Zhang Lingyi replied, "Not bad."

“Then you should eat some more, don’t waste it.” While saying this, Wang Guangning viciously and mercilessly picked up the entire plate of twice-cooked pork belly and poured it into Zhang Lingyi’s bowl.

Zhang Lingyi, “.....”

“You must finish eating it with a smile.” Wang Guangning said with deadly earnestness. Then he picked up a piece of beef with his chopsticks and lowered his head to devour it.

En, there indeed wasn’t much to say about Zhang Lingyi’s cooking skills. The fragrance of the satay had already permeated the beef, which was very fresh, tender and crisp. The crab meat with tofu was extremely sweet and creamy, instantly melting upon being ingested. Inwardly, Wang Guangning yelled ‘delicious’, but his expression was still aloof. It was just that his chopsticks evidently moved very fast.

A while later, the food on the table had already been reduced to half.

Having eaten until he was nearly full, Wang Guangning realised that Zhang Lingyi didn’t seem to have tasted his own dishes yet. Lifting his head, he found that Zhang Lingyi unexpectedly...was still eating the twice-cooked pork belly.

Although his speed was very slow, Zhang Lingyi truly was chewing the meat mouthful by mouthful.

Feeling somewhat upset, Wang Guangning grabbed Zhang Lingyi’s bowl and said, “Don’t eat any more, it’s not even delicious.” His voice seemed slightly depressed. Even though he had deliberately played the joke on Zhang Lingyi, he hadn’t genuinely wished for the other to correspond accordingly.

Wang Guangning felt as if he was unable to understand his own frame of mind.

“Ah, I really do think it tastes quite good!” Zhang Lingyi smiled mischievously, “This is the first time our *shou shou* has cooked, so of

course I must finish it all~!” Finishing his words, he reached out for his bowl.

“You’re not allowed to eat any more.” With a fierce look on his face, Wang Guangning walked directly to the rubbish bin and poured the rest of the rice and meat into it. Then he filled Zhang Lingyi’s bowl with fresh rice again.

“Here, eat it properly and don’t mess around.” Acting peeved, Wang Guangning pushed the bowl of rice towards Zhang Lingyi. “Wash the dishes after you’re done with eating.” After he spoke, he then walked out into the dining room to watch TV.

Zhang Lingyi stared at Wang Guangning’s back and silently sighed, “Ah, he really was proud and arrogant!”

But his pride and arrogance was extremely cute!

On one hand, I’m amazed by Wang Guangning’s level of pettiness. On the other, I’m astounded by his cooking skills (: ^ :)

/teaser for the next chapter/

“brushing our teeth together...this definitely isn’t our first kiss!”

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 023

023

“Brushing our teeth together...this definitely isn’t our first kiss!”

day eighteen | stand in front of the mirror together and brush your teeth



This time, when Wang Guangning came to Zhang Lingyi’s house, he was well prepared as he already had prior experience. He had not only prepared for a change of clothes, but also brought along a toothbrush and towel.

After having washed his face and rinsed his mouth, Wang Guangning intended to go and revise when Zhang Lingyi suddenly appeared like a ghost.

“*Shou shou*, let’s go and watch a horror movie!” Zhang Lingyi smiled eerily, causing Wang Guangning’s teeth to ache upon seeing it.

“You’re already very frightening, we don’t need to watch anymore horror movies.” Wang Guangning pushed Zhang Lingyi into the study room and said solemnly, “Zhang Lingyi, I will tell you very seriously right now, that you’re not allowed to enter the study room tonight.”

“Why!” Zhang Lingyi’s expression was sorrowful. His mind frantically supplemented him with a scene of a newlywed wife refusing their husband to enter the bridal room, and Zhang Lingyi immediately felt as if his whole person was about to suffocate.

“What do you think?” Wang Guangning’s face was cool and elegant. He had been a gay couple with Zhang Lingyi for quite a few days already, so

he knew that as long as Zhang Lingyi was present, then there was no way he would be able to revise.

“This is my house.” Zhang Lingyi lifted his head up and straightened his back in an attempt to seize back authority.

Wang Guangning slightly squinted, “You want to chase me out?”

If Zhang Lingyi dared to nod his head, then Wang Guangning would definitely beat him to death.

“I wouldn’t dare.” Zhang Lingyi’s bald head wilted and he slumped back despondently to his room.

Wang Guangning watched as Zhang Lingyi closed his door then sighed gently, sitting back onto the rainbow coloured sofa.

Outside the French window, the nightscape of G City could be seen from the splendid lights. The skies were dark, yet those lights in this enormous city were flickering like resplendent stars.

It was if the heavens had been overturned upon the earth.

As he gazed upon the sight, Wang Guangning became lost in his thoughts.

When he was at his house in S City, this happened quite often too. Standing upon his balcony, he could see the neon lights in the city. The night view over there was the same as here.

Although this was a different city, for someone who stood stared at the landscape from such height, the scenery seemed to be not that dissimilar.

But the people who lived in these places would be different.

Amongst the lights in S City, there would definitely not be Zhang Lingyi.

In a city, if the person who was very important to you wasn’t there, then it that would not be any different to other brilliantly lit cities.

But, once you knew that standing in the distance, somewhere amidst the lights, was the person who was very important to you...

Then, that city would be different to the others.

So now, exactly what kind of meaning did G City hold for him?

Wang Guangning suddenly realised that he seemed to have basically pushed himself onto a path where the road ahead was unclear.

The next morning, Wang Guangning stumbled blearily into the bathroom and stood in front of the mirror to brush his teeth. Just as his mouth had been brushed to the point of being full of foam, Zhang Lingyi boldly ran inside, nearly hitting Wang Guangning.

“What are you doing?” Wang Guangning frowned, his words spoken unclearly because of the mouthful of foam.

“*Shou shou*, how come you didn’t wait for me so we could brush our teeth together?” Zhang Lingyi wore an expression of ‘how could you still have the face to ask me’, and held himself back from jabbing the other’s forehead.

“*Gu.....*” Wang Guangning’s mouth was still filled with foam so he was unable to say ‘*uh*’, and could only form an odd ‘*gu*’ sound. Then he realised that today’s task for being a gay couple was to stand in front of the mirror together and brush their teeth.

It seemed that Zhang Lingyi definitely had a premeditated plan when he tricked Wang Guangning into coming to his house.

It was obvious that Zhang Lingyi was not completely awake. His eyes carried a hint of mist, and coupled with his bald head, the image was particularly funny. What made it even more hilarious was that Zhang Lingyi wore such an appearance while glaring at Wang Guangning in grievance.

Then he rubbed his eyes a few times in an attempt to make himself become more awake.

Wang Guangning almost couldn't hold back from choking on the toothpaste in his throat.

Such an odd visual image was really challenging for his mental state to react to, alright?

Zhang Lingyi had already squeezed out his toothpaste and prepared his water, so he was ready to brush his teeth together with Wang Guangning. Yet, before he started to brush his teeth, Zhang Lingyi's old habit of competing with Wang Guangning made him unable to resist from cracking a smile at the mirror. Raising his eyebrow provocatively, he said, "My teeth are still whiter than yours."

Wang Guangning spat in contempt, nearly spraying Zhang Lingyi's face with the foam, "Do you want to receive a beating?!"

Zhang Lingyi laughed and pushed Wang Guangning over a bit with his shoulder. After occupying more than half of the space in front of the mirror, Zhang Lingyi began to brush his teeth.

Unable to accept it, Wang Guangning shoved him back.

Then the two began to stupidly and childishly play the game of 'you hit me so I'll hit you'.

After finally finishing brushing his teeth amidst all the pushing and shoving, Zhang Lingyi proceeded to squeeze out a pile of shaving cream and began coating the foam lightly on his face.

Upon seeing this, Wang Guangning revealed an expression of contempt. He had always thought that men who used shaving cream were very effeminate.

In fact, Zhang Lingyi had been completely wronged. As his facial hair was relatively hard, it felt very uncomfortable if he didn't use shaving cream

when shaving. Furthermore, he was more casual when he was outside, so he wouldn't be this particular when he was on campus.

Hence, as soon as Wang Guangning's gaze filled with disdain swept over, Zhang Lingyi was immediately provoked, "Why are you looking at me like that?"

The number one thing that Zhang Lingyi was unable to endure was——being held in contempt by Wang Guangning.

Wang Guangning couldn't be bothered to reply, and gently washed his face with the towel. When he finally lifted his face again, Wang Guangning nearly died from laughter upon seeing the scene before him.

"*Ha ha ha ha.....*" Wang Guangning couldn't hold back from laughing loudly, and he pointed at Zhang Lingyi while saying, "A Buddhist monk grew a beard.....*ha ha ha ha.....*"

Hearing this, a cluster of flames erupted in Zhang Lingyi's eyes. Then, almost subconsciously, one of his hands secured the back of Wang Guangning's head and he leaned over.

Wang Guangning's eyes were opened wide.

Across the layer of the white shaving cream, their lips touched.

At that moment, time seemed to stop still. Any other sounds ceased to exist.

Zhang Lingyi also appeared to be surprised by his own aberration, and momentarily forgot to move.

Without knowing how much time had passed, Wang Guangning was the first to return to his senses. In his disordered state of mind, he pushed Zhang Lingyi away. "Are you crazy?!"

Zhang Lingyi knew that he was in the wrong, and felt somewhat guilty. He touched his bald head embarrassedly, and pretended to be calm. He laughed and said, "Now you've also grown a beard!"

Indeed, a circle of white shaving cream was stained around Wang Guangning's mouth.

Zhang Lingyi's intention had only been to smear the shaving cream onto Wang Guangning who had ridiculed him. However, the result was that the matter slipped into a completely different direction that was out of his control.

Even if he pretended that nothing had happened, it still couldn't erase the sensation that he felt which remained on his lips.

It had been soft, yet caused him to also tremble in apprehension.

Wang Guangning calmed himself down, and didn't jump up to give Zhang Lingyi a violent beating.

This was already beyond the scope of a mere joke.

With a cold expression, Wang Guangning stared at Zhang Lingyi for quite a while, before indifferently throwing out a sentence, "Are you that bored?" Then he left, without even turning his head back.

"Uh....." Zhang Lingyi watched his receding back, and was silent for a moment.

He had obviously just intended to play a prank, so why had it evolved into such an action? Zhang Lingyi also couldn't recall exactly what his mood had been at the moment when he leaned over.

Clearly he had only wanted to plaster his cheek on Wang Guangning's, so why would...

Zhang Lingyi knocked his smooth head, feeling a headache coming on. He was somewhat annoyed and upset.

What should he do? Shou shou seemed to be really angry!

(☹ ☹) *: ✧ Progress ~

/teaser for the next chapter/

ZLY: *Shou shou*, quickly come to bed!

WGN:

ZLY: I'll show you a fun game we can play (✧ω✧)

WGN: (㊦ Ò Ó)

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 024

024

“Let’s play Plants vs Zombies!”

day nineteen| lie in the quilt together and play games



Before pretending to be gay with Zhang Lingyi, Wang Guangning had always thought that Zhang Lingyi was a very cool, handsome and domineering kind of man, just like himself.

But now, he felt that Zhang Lingyi was simply just a fool.

Other than a fool, Wang Guangning couldn’t think of any other person who would run to his room in the middle of the night and drill into the bed, just to invite him to play games.

“*Shou shou~* Come~ Let’s play a game~”

Wang Guangning had revised until twelve o’clock and only then decided to sleep. He had just lied down when Zhang Lingyi barged in.

Since Wang Guangning had ordered again and again that Zhang Lingyi wasn’t allowed to come near the study room for the whole day in order to prevent himself from being disturbed, Zhang Lingyi could only linger in his own room and the lounge feeling aggrieved. In his boredom, Zhang Lingyi skimmed through a few books. He had waited until Wang Guangning finally finished revising, then immediately rushed over to harass him.

Wang Guangning held his forehead in helplessness. He had revised for an entire day, so his mental state was very tired. Now, he just wanted to sleep.

However, Zhang Lingyi had completely immersed himself in the world of being a gay couple. Regardless of Wang Guangning's attitude which was obviously not welcoming, he happily burrowed into the blanket. Straightening the pillow, Zhang Lingyi pulled Wang Guangning into a sitting position and made him lean against it. Then he took out an iPad and asked, "*Shou shou*, what game do you like to play?"

"Sleeping." Wang Guangning

"Oh~ Sleeping isn't a game~" Zhang Lingyi's finger slid around on the screen, then finally pointed out Plants vs Zombies, "*Shou shou*, how about we play this?"

Wang Guangning's lips twitched as he stared at the game which he had already completely cleared. He said casually, "Whatever, I don't mind. You can play, and I'll watch."

"How could we possibly do that? Of course we have to play together~!" As he said that, Zhang Lingyi moved the iPad between them. "Hey, let's choose the plants first! Pick a sunflower first, then a peashooter.....*shou shou*, what do you want to choose?"

Wang Guangning, "....."

"Ah, quickly choose one~" Zhang Lingyi bumped his elbow against Wang Guangning's shoulder.

But this should be a level which could be passed by simply choosing any plant!

Wang Guangning replied, "Then pick the chomper."

Zhang Lingyi said, "The attack power of the chomper is too weak though!"

Fuck, then why did you ask me to choose?!

Wang Guangning wanted to strike out, but he was too tired and couldn't be bothered arguing back, so he just rolled his eyes.

Stuck in his own world, Zhang Lingyi continued, "But since it's what *shou shou* has chosen, then we must definitely use it ~ *En*, how about this. In front of the chompers, I'll plant a row of potatoes!"

That's a wall-nut! A wall-nut!

Wang Guangning felt like cursing.

"Don't worry, *shou shou*. I will be like these potatoes and use my own body to ward them off, so you can enjoy eating the zombies!" As Zhang Lingyi spoke, he felt particularly moved. He felt that he really was an excellent, self-sacrificing *xiao gong*!

He didn't have a hobby of eating zombies, thank you! Wang Guangning was already speechless, unable to say anything.

Zhang Lingyi then chose a few others, and rubbed his hands together as his eyes shone brightly, "Come, *shou shou*. Let's fight the zombies together."

Wang Guangning didn't know why he had the urge to lie down and pretend to be a corpse.

En, but one person playing this game would be enough to pass. Therefore, he would wait until Zhang Lingyi was playing the game then silently sleep.

Wang Guangning quietly calculated this inside.

However, Zhang Lingyi obviously wasn't a selfish *xiao gong* who only cared about playing the game himself. That's right, Zhang *xiao gong* was someone who upheld the spirit of sharing; a particularly great *gong* who was very considerate and caring towards their *xiao shou*!

Hence, just as Wang Guangning had quietly closed his eyes slightly, Zhang Lingyi moved the iPad towards him as if he had been injected with chicken blood. Leaning his head against Wang Guangning's shoulder, Zhang Lingyi said, "*Shou shou*, quick, plant your chompers."

Wang Guangning was basically dragged along by hand to press the chompers and plant them. Zhang Lingyi would once again then say to himself, “Good. I’ll plant a few potatoes in front of the chompers to protect you.”

Enough! Those were wall-nuts!

Zhang Lingyi planted the nuts then once again stared at Wang Guangning passionately, “*Shou shou*, don’t be afraid. I’m here for you!”

Ah, heavens! Is it possible to send two real zombies over to eat Zhang Lingyi?!

Speechless, Wang Guangning gazed up at the ceiling then silently covered his head with the quilt.

“*Shou shou*, you have already eaten three zombies!” Zhang Lingyi held an expression of jubilation, but frowned upon turning his head and seeing that Wang Guangning had already covered himself up. “*Shou shou*, don’t you want to play the game?”

“I’m really sleepy!” Wang Guangning’s patience had finally run out and he glared at the other.

It was only then that Zhang Lingyi noticed Wang Guangning did indeed look quite tired. Rubbing the other’s fluffy hair, he said, “Well then, you go and sleep first while I finish this round.”

Wang Guangning’s scalp tightened slightly with Zhang Lingyi’s warm palm on his head. However, he didn’t dare to react too strongly in case he garnered Zhang Lingyi’s suspicion, so he tried hard to ignore that kind of feeling. Although Wang Guangning spoke to Zhang Lingyi in a casual manner, there was still a hint of frustration in his eyes that was hard to avoid, and his heart felt somewhat disturbed.

He said, “I’ll watch you play.”

“Didn’t you say that you were sleepy?” Although Zhang Lingyi posed this as a question, his eyes had clearly brightened up.

If you can’t pretend, then don’t pretend!

Wang Guangning nodded his head , “It’s fine, watching doesn’t require any effort. Just don’t ask me to do anything.”

“Alright.” Zhang Lingyi said with a smile. He thought for a moment, then offered his shoulder over to Wang Guangning, “Here, I’ll lend you *ben shao*’s shoulder. If you’re tired, you can lean against it.”

“I’m not that tired!” Wang Guangning gave Zhang Lingyi a shove, “Stop speaking nonsense and play your game.”

“Oh.” Once again, Zhang Lingyi immersed himself into the game.

Wang Guangning stared blankly. What he was looking at wasn’t the interface of the game, but rather.....Zhang Lingyi’s shoulder.

In truth, he really was very sleepy, and wanted to find a place to lean against.

But it couldn’t be Zhang Lingyi’s shoulder.

Wang Guangning was afraid that he would really fall into his enemy’s hands.

Zhang Lingyi played with great enthusiasm. While planting the chompers and wall-nuts, he imagined a scene of him standing in front of Wang Guangning to protect the other. In his mind, the zombies naturally became the Li Sihong who had once held errant intentions towards Wang Guangning.

As expected, he truly was enduring humiliation as part of this important mission!

It was particularly moving.

Zhang Lingyi passed one round after the other. In each round, he would plant a row a chompers and wall-nuts.

He continued playing the game. Suddenly, his shoulder sank down. Wang Guangning had finally been unable to keep supporting himself up and collapsed onto his shoulder.

Zhang Lingyi's shoulders stiffened, and he turned his head to look at Wang Guangning. His nose rubbed against the other's short hair, and Zhang Lingyi's mood immediately became somewhat complicated.

Since he was already so tired, why did Wang Guangning persist in accompanying himself while he played the game?

Although Zhang Lingyi was sometimes stupid, he was still a first class scholarship recipient so his brain wasn't just for display. If it was Wang Guangning from the past, the other would definitely just kick him out without hesitation.

Wang Guangning really was a very good person. Before, when Zhang Lingyi didn't understand him, he had thought that Wang Guangning was proud and arrogant. Zhang Lingyi had disapproved of him. It was only after genuinely interacting deeply with the other that he realised Wang Guangning was a person who was very sincere to his friends. Wang Guangning was patient and accommodating, and he was willing to compromise. That bit of conceitedness seen from an outsider's point of view had disappeared without a trace.

Towards this kind of person, Zhang Lingyi should have long been friends with.

Zhang Lingyi was unable to prevent himself from laughing. Supporting Wang Guangning's head on his palm, Zhang Lingyi moved the other and let him properly sleep. He quietly slipped off the bed and walked to the door. Turning his head back to glance at Wang Guangning who was sleeping heavily, Zhang Lingyi carefully closed the door.



The next day, the two of them once again lived together in harmony. Wang Guangning continued to kick Zhang Lingyi away into his own room, while burying himself in the study and reading his books comfortably for an entire day. When he was tired, Wang Guangning would go and look for Zhang Lingyi to play Plants vs Zombies with.

Zhang Lingyi had apparently identified Wang Guangning as a chomper. In every match, Zhang Lingyi would be sure to plant a row of chompers, then another row of wall-nuts.

Hence, Wang Guangning stared speechlessly as the label of ‘*xiao shou*’ was slapped upon the row of savage and fierce chompers. As for the simple and honest wall-nut gentlemen, they became known as the *xiao gongs* who used their body to screen off the wind and block the rain for their *xiao shou*.

Could the patches in Zhang Lingyi’s brain increase even further?

Although it was very comfortable staying at Zhang Lingyi’s house, the two of them still had more exams tomorrow. They remained at the house until evening, then ate their dinner and packed their things before returning to the campus.

It was already dark by the time they arrived back at the university. They had both studied for an entire day, so naturally they didn’t want to visit the self-study hall and proceeded to return to their respective dormitories.

Wang Guangning had only arrived in his dorm for a short while when he received a phone call from the guidance teacher and was told to go online to fill out a few forms for the exchange program. These kinds of forms were usually quite tedious, so it was already ten o’clock at night by the time Wang Guangning completed them.

Stretching his body, Wang Guangning prepared to wash his face and rinse his mouth then go to sleep. He didn’t think that he would unexpectedly receive a phone call which he had thought would be impossible to ever receive again.

Wang Guangning stared at the three letters of 'Yu Haining' twinkling on the screen of his phone, and believed that his eyesight had momentarily blurred.

When he had previously chased after Yu Haining madly, she had clearly not paid any attention to him. *So why did she always call him now when he had decided to ignore her?*

Indeed, the heart of a woman was as deep as the sea!

Wang Guangning was completely unable to understand the train of thoughts of women. He directly answered the phone call. "En."

"Guang.....Guangning....." Yu Haining's sweet and unctuous voice carried a hint of intoxication, "Is it.....you?"

Wang Guangning's brows wrinkled, "What happened to you?"

Yu Haining laughed happily, "Nothing.....there's nothing wrong....."

Was this called 'nothing wrong'?

"You're not drunk, are you?" Wang Guangning asked. Although he didn't like Yu Haining, she was still the woman he had once chased after. Listening to her voice, he determined that she was probably drunk. He didn't know where she was, but it would be fine as long as she didn't meet any danger.

"Drank.....a bit....." Yu Haining paused, it seemed as if she was slightly despondent. Then she continued, "I had some alcohol.....then.....then I thought of you....."

She must definitely be intoxicated quite heavily!

Wang Guangning knew that Yu Haining was a person who thought highly of herself, so she would normally never speak out such words.

But now, it was a pity that disregarding the fact that Wang Guangning didn't like her, it was also unknown whether he even liked girls. Otherwise, he would definitely believe what she had said.

“Who are you currently with?” Wang Guangning asked calmly. If she was safe and together with her friends, then he would directly hang up the call.

“*Hee hee~* No.....no one.....” said Yu Haining, “I am standing under the moon.....thinking of you.....”

So Yu Haining was actually a werewolf who would transform upon seeing the moon and eat himself?

Wang Guangning knew that he should not be having these unfathomable thoughts in his brain at this moment. Hence, he took a deep breath and said, “Where are you exactly? I’ll come and find you.”

Fuck. He was definitely a good Samaritan who appeared only once every a hundred years, alright? He even needed to care about the safety of such a woman, could it be that he was the legendary Virgin Mary?!

Wang Guangning broke out in cold sweat.

“I’m at.....Moon Lake.....near the edge.....*en*.....I already forgot.....” Yu Haining’s voice sounded a bit foolish. If it was before, Wang Guangning would definitely find it cute.

Yet, now he only felt very irritated. Since she was drunk, why did Yu Haining not call that damned fatty who ‘supported’ her?!

Also, why would she run to Moon Lake? *Ah, it really was baffling!*

However, it was still very dangerous for a drunk woman to be alone at Moon Lake. In the end, Wang Guangning was unable to harden his heart and ignore this matter. Grabbing a coat and his wallet, he rushed out.

(≥∪≤) ♡ Hope you all had a wonderful Valentine’s Day ~

Also, Happy Lunar New Year ~ (o^ ^o)

~

There'll be more updates in a few days, as soon as I get my exams and presentations done (*'▽'*)/

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 025

025

“Eating vinegar for the other person!”

day twenty| eat vinegar for the other person



Yu Haining clearly still retained her rationale and did not run off into a remote place that would be difficult to find. She was calmly sitting by the lake, staring into the depths blankly.

When Wang Guangning walked over, he could smell the strong odour of alcohol. As expected, she really was drunk.

“Hey, you alright?” Wang Guangning walked over to Yu Haining and asked without much sincerity.

Yu Haining slowly turned her head, and saw Wang Guangning. Then she revealed a pure and innocent smile which was slightly blurred, “Guang..... Guangning.....You came.....”

As she spoke, her body fell towards Wang Guangning.

Wang Guangning quickly propped Yu Haining up to prevent her from pasting herself on him. He frowned and said, “How come you drank so much?”

“Missed you.....” Yu Haining answered dazedly. Her head drooped to one side, falling onto Wang Guangning’s arm. She had unexpectedly fallen asleep.

Fuck, what kind of situation was this?

Wang Guangning stared at Yu Haining in bewilderment. Indeed, she appeared quite pure and charming as she slept. The inconceivable thing was, her makeup didn't smudge even though she was drunk to this extent.

And yet, the problem was that he now had absolutely no interest in her!

“Hey, don't fall asleep! Wake up.....” Wang Guangning patted Yu Haining a few times. She answered blearily, but still did not come to.

Ah, what exactly was happening now?!

He had only been upholding his responsibility as a fellow classmate to check if she was in danger or not!

It really was hard to be a good person in this world!

In Wang Guangning's heart, ten thousand grass mud horses¹ galloped by wildly. He silently cursed and resigned himself to the fate of supporting Yu Haining up.

[1] : (cǎo ní mǎ) chinese internet slang which is a play on the words (cào nǐ mā) – fuck your mother.

He then made a few phone calls to Yu Haining's roommates so they could come and bring her back. Unexpectedly, not a single of those calls was picked up.

Wang Guangning felt that there seemed to be something wrong. However, it was near the end of the term, and if people weren't busy revising then they were busy sleeping. It was quite normal to be unable to contact others. Hence, he wasn't particularly concerned about it.

In order to solve the problem, he could only find a hotel outside for Yu Haining to stay the night.

It was fortunate that there were many small hotels surrounding the university.

With great difficulty, Wang Guangning half carried and half dragged Yu Haining to a hotel near Moon Lake. During the journey there, Yu Haining's soft chest rubbed against Wang Guangning's arm multiple times, just like what happened at their dates when he had chased her in the past.

However, Wang Guangning sorrowfully discovered that even though his entire body would be restless and incessantly excited if he accidentally touched her chest in the past, he didn't feel any hints of agitation now.

Could it be that he truly was going to bend? Such a major thing was far from good.

With a grim expression, Wang Guangning booked a room for Yu Haining. Then, modelling the mentality of one transporting goods, he carried her there. Wang Guangning threw Yu Haining onto the bed and sat on the edge. He sighed in relief, then stood up in preparation to leave.

To Wang Guangning's surprise, just as he shifted, Yu Haining also moved. She rested her long and delicate palm on his hand, then spoke in a sweet but clearly intoxicated voice that carried an unspeakable charm, "Guangning.....don't leave....."

Wang Guangning drew back his hand and replied, "It's very safe here, so you can sleep at ease."

Yu Haining didn't seem to hear what he said, and she once again fell on him. Either deliberately or unconsciously, her body rubbed against Wang Guangning. Her arms also conveniently wound themselves across his shoulders as her cherry lips leaned close to Wang Guangning's ear. Breathing lightly, she whispered, "Guangning.....don't go.....I.....like.....like you....."

Wang Guangning pursed his lips and ripped himself out of her embrace. Expressionlessly, he said, "You've had too many drinks."

You should quickly stop before going too far!

With things having reached this stage, Wang Guangning could guess that there was something suspicious about Yu Haining's supposed intoxication this time.

But in regard to what exactly she wanted to achieve, Wang Guangning held not a single iota of interest.

Firstly, he didn't believe that Yu Haining would really fall in love with him. And even if she really did like him, the Wang Guangning of present would not give any response in return.

Wang Guangning could feel an ache in his head. Although he was quite impatient now, his good manners made it impossible to say anything too unpleasant to women.

Yu Haining didn't know about the changes in Wang Guangning's thoughts. Everyone in f University knew that although Wang Guangning had many people who liked him, his standards were extremely high and no one had ever caught his attention. It was only until his third year, that he first felt affection for another person.

And that person was Yu Haining.

Therefore, Yu Haining was convinced that even if her previous entanglements with Zhang Lingyi and other men were known to Wang Guangning, he would only feel deeply hurt and sad. So long as she threw herself into his arms and took the initiative to be friendly, it would be extremely easy to win a newbie at love like him.

And even if Wang Guangning really changed his heart, she wasn't afraid. Yu Haining was confident in her own beauty and strategies: it wouldn't be much of a problem to let her and Wang Guangning tangle together for a night.

Men were all lustful. After all, who would throw out a beauty who had sent herself onto their doorstep?

In particular, Wang Guangning's current appearance of rejection clearly reflected his inexperience. As long as she gave him a taste of sweetness, he would definitely sink into it.

While she calculated, Yu Haining allowed her coat to slide off. Inside, she wore only an extremely light chiffon shirt. A few of the buttons on it were all open, exposing her pink lace bra underneath.

With her excellent figure and stunning features, normal men would have long rushed towards her.

Yet, Wang Guangning only felt a headache. He didn't intend on saying much more, and planned on just directly leaving.

"Guangning....." From behind him, Yu Haining reached out and hugged his waist. She pressed her exposed chest onto his back and rubbed softly. "Guangning.....I like you.....these days, I have always been thinking of you....."

Enough, there would be no movement even if you really wanted to.

Wang Guangning silently swore, and was just about to coolly and mercilessly pull apart Yu Haining's hands which encircled his waist. He didn't expect for her hand to slip down directly onto a certain sensitive place.

Wang Guangning coughed in shock, then suddenly jumped up and tore away from Yu Haining. His eyes darkened, and he said, "Yu Haining, please show some self-respect."

But Yu Haining's expression was more complicated than his. She stared at Wang Guangning in disbelief as her complexion changed again and again. Finally, she couldn't hold back and asked, "Guangning.....you're not hard.....are you?"

Even though she only touched him a little bit just then, Yu Haining knew from her experience with countless other people that Wang Guangning had absolutely no reaction at all.

But it was already so late into the night, and things had already reached this stage...

Under these circumstances, as long as it was a man, it was impossible for there not to be a single reaction at all, regardless of whether the woman in front of them was the one they liked.

Yu Haining had never doubted her own charm, and naturally started suspecting Wang Guangning's 'ability'.

He wouldn't be so unlucky, right? Could it be that this was the reason why Wang Guangning never had a girlfriend?

A faint light of contempt revealed itself in Yu Haining's eyes.

"You're thinking too much." Wang Guangning's expression was very calm. "I just can't get hard for you." With that, he turned and left through the door without a second glance.

Yu Haining, who had been left behind, stayed dazedly in the same spot. She didn't recover from the impact of Wang Guangning's last sentence for a long time.

In actuality though, Wang Guangning was not as unruffled as Yu Haining thought. It could be said that he basically fled as soon as he came out from the hotel.

Of course there wouldn't be a reaction, he had just been hard once before not long ago...

But that person had been...

Wang Guangning faced the wind and shed tears. He didn't have a reaction when a beautiful woman like Yu Haining held him, but was hard from just pushing down Zhang Lingyi when they were joking around.

Was there anything more misfortunate than this?

In order to escape this cruel reality, Wang Guangning decided to go back and have a good night's sleep.



The next morning, those in the marketing major had an exam. When Wang Guangning walked out from the examination room, he discovered that everyone seemed to be glancing at him somewhat strangely.

A few people who had good relations with him even quietly ran over and asked him, “Guangning.....how have you been recently?”

Wang Guangning was baffled by these odd questions, “What do you mean ‘how have I been’?”

The people who had questioned him asked urgently, “You know, in regards to your relationships?”

Wang Guangning was even more confused. “Aren’t they the same as always?”

“Ah.....” They revealed a disappointed expression. After conversing for a while more but not gleaming any other information, they could only resentfully leave.

Feeling slight apprehension, Wang Guangning pulled over Sun Siyang and asked him, “Was there any news about me these past few days?”

Sun Siyang had revised until the middle of the night yesterday, so he still hadn’t completely recovered. Upon hearing Wang Guangning’s question, he froze for a moment then subconsciously took out his phone to check.

As such a high level *xiao cao*, Wang Guangning was a frequent topic in FXingRen. As soon as there was any sign of trouble, it could be found in the forums on FXingRen. Sun Siyang was already accustomed to visiting FXingRen to read the gossip about Wang Guangning.

After a moment.

“Ah ah ah ——” Sun Siyang screamed.

“What happened?” Wang Guangning’s head was sore due to the shout.

“Guangning, you went and booked a room at a hotel with Yu Haining last night?” Sun Siyang asked in amazement.

Wang Guangning’s eyelid twitched, and he grabbed the phone. Only, he saw a thread labelled as ‘important’ on the front page that had a shocking title

Wang Guangning defeated Zhang Lingyi and won the beauty: passionately booking a room with Yu Haining before the exam

Fuck, shouldn’t this title which was like the ones on third-rate tabloids be censored?

With a trembling hand, Wang Guangning clicked on the thread. With an excited, gossipy and ambiguous tone, the poster described how they personally saw Wang Guangning taking Yu Haining to a hotel in the middle of the night.

Then, there was more gossiping in which people discussed whether this proved Wang Guangning had defeated Zhang Lingyi and successfully pursued Yu Haining.

To his surprise, there was even a photo of Wang Guangning himself dragging Yu Haining into the hotel. In the photo, Yu Haining’s entire person was basically hanging on his body, and it appeared as if there was a chance of something happening at any time.

The time this was posted was at 12 o’clock last night. Less than twelve hours later, there was already more than one hundred pages already written. At the end of the term, everyone was under great pressure. Thus, it was rare for such gossip to be produced. Furthermore, it was even related to the two famous *xiao cao* at the university, as well as the *xiao hua*. Everyone speculated underneath the post, using it as an opportunity to also reduce stress.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were both the dream lovers of the girls at the university, and no one doubted the matter that they would eventually be able to successfully pursue Yu Haining. However, the question was who would be the one to do so.

The confession they had both given at the university's festival caused a sensation back then, and everyone was curious about the results.

Now, it could be said that the truth had come to light. After all, there was even a photo. This was the so-called 'if there is a photo, then it is the truth'.

Hence, everyone sighed with sorrow. Some people were rueful that Zhang Lingyi had unexpectedly lost, while others proclaimed that knew from the very start that Yu Haining would definitely choose Wang Guangning.

There were also many girls who had burst into tears below, sobbing about 'how could Wang Guangning have a girlfriend', and 'how could they go to a hotel after only just getting together'?

This was truly too impure! It completely subverted his image of a prince!

There were also some people underneath who said acidly that Wang Guangning didn't have good taste, and that Yu Haining was just a slut. These opinions immediately obtained the support of many, but there were also a group of people who promptly spoke out in Yu Haining's favour.

In short, everyone was very quarrelsome.

"What even is this all about?!" Wang Guangning gazed up at the sky and wailed in anguish.

"Guangning....." Sun Siyang shot him a complicated look, and finally asked after a long time, "Did you really.....do that with Yu Haining?"

"I didn't!" Wang Guangning replied forcefully, "She was drunk, so I sent her there to sleep it off."

"Oh." Sun Siyang answered, but his eyes conveyed his obvious disbelief.

A beauty was still a beauty. He didn't believe that Wang Guangning would not take action!

Unless he was incapable!

Wang Guangning couldn't be bothered arguing with him, because he suddenly thought of something. This post was extremely hot right now, so it was difficult to guarantee that Zhang Lingyi had not seen it.

He didn't know what reaction Zhang Lingyi would have upon seeing it.

Wang Guangning quickly took out his phone, and realised that it been powered off due to his exam this morning.

Sure enough, as soon as he turned it on, Wang Guangning received several text messages from Zhang Lingyi.

Wang Guangning, I despise you!

Wang Guangning, you'd better quickly explain to me what's going on!

Wang Guangning, I believe that you're not this kind of a person.

Wang Guangning, quickly call me!

Zhang Lingyi had called him by his name rather than *shou shou*, so it seemed that the other really was worried.

Everyone seems to be doubting Wang Guangning's 'ability' 😏😏😏

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 026

026

“Eating vinegar for the other person...”

day twenty| eat vinegar for the other person



Wang Guangning didn't know whether it was just his misconception, but he felt that the contents of Zhang Lingyi's text messages this time made it seem as if they really were in a relationship and that he was the one who had an affair with someone else.

Ah, what kind of mysterious headcanon was this?!

Wang Guangning stared at the texts wordlessly, then reluctantly dialled Zhang Lingyi's number.

The call was picked up rather quickly by Zhang Lingyi, “*Shou shou*, how could you cheat on me¹?!”

[1] : translates literally to ‘the red apricot tree leans over the garden wall’, and is an idiom to describe a wife having an illicit lover.

Wang Guangning rubbed his temple. “It’s a misunderstanding.”

“Of course I know that it’s a misunderstanding!” Zhang Lingyi hmped, “As if it’s possible for you to still like Yu Haining.”

Then why did you send over so many accusatory texts?

Wang Guangning changed from kneading his temple to rolling his eyes. However, it had to be said that Zhang Lingyi's confidence and trust in him made Wang Guangning feel somewhat warm inside.

"When I saw your texts, I thought that you were angry!" said Wang Guangning.

"Ah, really? Did it really seem like that?" Zhang Lingyi smirked, "Then that's good. Coincidentally, I'm supposed to feel jealous today. Didn't I perform really well?"

Why is your logic so unfathomable?

Wang Guangning had the urge to hang up.

"But, what exactly happened? Regarding the post and that photo?"

Wang Guangning briefly explained everything to him.

"Fuck, Yu Haining really is....." Zhang Lingyi was a person with good manners, and couldn't say anything too unpleasant towards women. Thus, he ended up resentfully closing his mouth. However, the more he thought about it, the more unwilling he felt. "*Shou shou*, don't worry. I will help you to settle this matter."

"What are you thinking of doing?" Wang Guangning felt a bad premonition.

"*He he*, you just need to wait for the good show." Zhang Lingyi finished speaking then hung up.

Wang Guangning stared at his phone in resignation. Sun Siyang sidled over to gossip, "Guangning, who were you talking to?"

It had to be said that Wang Guangning was usually quite a principled person. There was a lot of gossip regarding him on FXingRen, and some were real while others were false. However, Wang Guangning had always upheld himself with the attitude that 'the truth would speak for itself', and didn't like contending with other people. Even if it was his closest friend,

Sun Siyang, Wang Guangning would find it too bothersome to explain unless he was persistently pressed about it.

Yet, Sun Siyang had clearly just heard him explain the situation to the person on the other side of the phone. *They must be very important person...could it be that she was Wang Guangning real girlfriend?!*

Sun Siyang felt as if he had discovered the truth.

Wang Guangning rolled his eyes then hooked his arm around Sun Siyang and dragged him forward, “You’re a man, so don’t gossip so much. Let’s go and eat.”

After Wang Guangning and Sun Siyang finished their dinner and returned to the dormitory, the matter had unexpectedly escalated.

A male student who had admired Yu Haining for a long time posted a thread on FXingRen and indignantly denounced that Wang Guangning simply was unable to meet Yu Haining’s standards and so on.

With sharp and incisive words, the male student described how Yu Haining was a girl who was beautiful inside and out, and would absolutely not just wantonly visit hotels with other people. He labelled Wang Guangning as an empty flower vase² and said that he must have used despicable means to trick Yu Haining.

[2] : someone with an attractive appearance but without substance.

In order to prove how detestable Wang Guangning was, Zhang Lingyi was also accidentally brought into it.

In the post, the male student energetically praised Zhang Lingyi for possessing an excellent temperament and appearance, and wrote that Wang Guangning wasn’t even worth being used to carry Zhang Lingyi’s shoes. The main purpose was to borrow Zhang Lingyi to set off Wang Guangning. The final verdict that he obtained was that if Yu Haining didn’t even view Zhang Lingyi as worthy, how could Wang Guangning be up to par?

His logic really wasn't just ordinarily unusual!

Even Zhang Lingyi was shot when lying down³.

[3] : internet slang to describe someone getting unjustly ridiculed, attacked or implicated for just being present.

However, the incredible thing was that many people actually agreed with the male student's perspective.

Although Wang Guangning's popularity was quite high, the male students in F University who didn't know him would, to some extent, hold envy and hate towards him. In particular, those who admired Yu Haining were naturally unable to watch their own goddess falling into another person's clutches. Hence, they all became a member of the brigade engaged in a crusade against Wang Guangning.

As far as the female students were concerned, their image of Wang Guangning had always been that of an elegant man. There was nothing they could do after hearing about the news he had a girlfriend, but to their surprise, the news that broke out was actually a sex scandal about booking a hotel room together.

Even though the university students in this age were already not as pure-minded as before, it was another thing to have such a matter be exhibited right at their front door.

Many people expressed their misconceptions about Wang Guangning. *I didn't expect for him to be the same as the other male students: a lecher who only thinks with his lower half.*

Wang Guangning was shot numerous times.

"Fuck!" Wang Guangning sat in front of his computer and watched the post spread like wildfire.

"Guangning, do you want go online and explain?" Sun Siyang asked as he glanced at Wang Guangning darkly clouded expression.

“Forget it.” Wang Guangning waved his hand, his expression changing to that of one who had experienced the vicissitudes of life. “A wise man does not believe in rumours. Who cares about him?” With that, he then climbed onto his bed for an afternoon nap.

He was indeed worthy of being Wang Guangning. Even at this moment, he was so calm and collected.

Sun Siyang admired him secretly.

“Ah, exactly who did I offend?!” Wang Guangning hid in his quilt and howled in anguish, then exerted all his strength and knocked against the wall.

Sun Siyang: “.....”

Anyhow, as a *xiao cao* who was often mentioned in other people’s gossip, Wang Guangning still displayed sufficient composure. After sleeping, he got up and walked out to the self-study hall to revise, feeling completely refreshed.

The days near the end of the term were very boring and irritating. Other than having exams, they would continuously revise. It was no wonder that everyone’s enthusiasm for gossip was so high. After all, they needed to relieve their stress.

Although Wang Guangning felt extremely depressed, he was certain that as long as he didn’t pay attention to it, the matter would pass in a few days.

It would be fine as long as his friends believed him. As for those who had nothing to do with him, their opinions were irrelevant.

However, Wang Guangning didn’t expect that after a day of fermentation, the ‘Hotel Incident’ would end up being pushed to the top.

The reason was that Zhang Lingyi also joined.

The story went like this: Originally, Zhang Lingyi was feeling quite unhappy about the label the other people had recklessly thrown at Wang

Guangning. He had just been thinking about how to gently help Wang Guangning clarify things, but didn't expect that the situation would actually escalate after just taking a nap.

A male student had suddenly written a post and attacked Wang Guangning, and there were even numerous replies.

Angered, Zhang Lingyi sat in front of his computer and his fingers flew. Soon, he typed out a large section of text and posted it on the thread, using a name that basically everyone at F University recognised. Hence, many people were shocked one after the other upon seeing it.

Fuck, even Zhang Lingyi took action. And what he wrote is just as sharp and incisive.

In actuality, Zhang Lingyi did not post much as it was mainly just divided into three points——

Firstly, I'd like to ask the handsome guy⁴ who started this thread to not compare Wang Guangning with myself. I'm not from your family, so if you want to compare, then put yourself forward. Furthermore, if you have the ability, then go chase after Yu Haining. Slandering those who are tall, rich and handsome is just too plebeian. You should also eat more grapes, otherwise you'll always think that they're sour⁵.

[4] : a form of address

[5] : this is referring to the tale of <<The Fox and the Grapes>>, where a fox comes across a vine of grapes and wants to eat them. However, is unable to reach the grapes as they're too high up. After failing in his attempts many times, the fox gives up and says that he didn't want to eat the grapes in the first place since they're too sour. (He also proceeds to tell the other animals that the grapes are sour.) In this context, Zhang Lingyi is telling the male student that he shouldn't slander and criticise Wang Guangning if he doesn't actually know anything.

Secondly, Wang Guangning doesn't have any relationship with Yu Haining at all. I was there at the time and followed along, he had only sent her to the hotel to rest. The person who posted the photo is unkind, they only kept Wang Guangning and Yu Haining in the frame but not me.

Thirdly, and this is the most important point, it is absolutely impossible for Wang Guangning and Yu Haining to be together because he and I are a couple.

This is the truth, thank you!

As soon as this came out, the entirety of F University exploded.

For a start, the dear friend who had posted this thread was publicly slapped in the face by Zhang Lingyi, then ridiculed until he had cuts and bruises all over⁶. He was ashamed and unable to show his face, and from then on, was known as "F University's number one loser".

[6] : to be totally refuted

Upon reading Zhang Lingyi's post, everyone accepted his words. The entire university knew that Zhang Lingyi and Wang Guangning did not get along well. With this being the case, the fact that Zhang Lingyi stood out on behalf of Wang Guangning and clarified the situation proved that Wang Guangning really was innocent. He had been wrongfully accused to the point that even Zhang Lingyi was unable to tolerate it any longer.

Finally, and most importantly, Zhang Lingyi unexpectedly said that he and Wang Guangning were actually together.

All the rotten women in F University were immediately agitated.

Could this be considered as Zhang Lingyi publicly coming out of the closet?

For a moment, the rotten women took action and stood up in succession. Within their group, PS was conducted and their conversations were unceasing.

At the same time, debates regarding the roles of *shou* and *gong* between Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi became hot topics.

In contrast to the excitement of the rotten women, everyone else approached the part of Zhang Lingyi's post that was similar to a coming out of the closet statement differently.

Unexpectedly, their opinion was unanimous——

Fuck. Yu Haining, this is a tragedy!

It should be noted that Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's incompatibility was comparable to that of North and South Korea. Therefore, the hidden meaning behind Zhang Lingyi's words was equivalent to——Wang Guangning would rather become gay and be a couple with Zhang Lingyi than to be together with Yu Haining.

This statement held a different approach to what people in ancient times said——'what can no longer be endured, will no longer be tolerated'——but the result was the same.

If I were able to be with Yu Haining, then who else in the world would I be unable to get together with? Even if it was with the completely incompatible Zhang Lingyi, I would still be able to calmly become a gay couple with him.

Hence, this then devolved into a different problem——

Exactly what did Yu Haining do to cause these two men who had fought for her attention in front of the entire school not long ago to rather become gay than be involved with her?

The ability of the masses to completely change the topic was quite high as their capability to think properly was basically nonexistent near the end of the term.

Thus, everyone began discussing Yu Haining's 'secret' in high spirits and ignored Zhang Lingyi's coming out of the closet confession.

This was because they all thought that Zhang Lingyi used a rhetoric technique and wrote that as an exaggerated contrast, rather than describing a real thing.

According to everyone's logic, if they really were together, how could they just announce it so openly in public? Shouldn't they be trying their best to conceal it?

In this amusing-to-death era, if you were serious, then you lost.

Hence, the Zhang *xiao cao* who had originally been waiting for the matter of Wang Guangning and himself being a couple to spread all over the school and break the hearts of many girls, sat in front of his computer and watched everyone discuss what exactly Yu Haining had done and could only be deeply dejected.

En. I say, everyone. Don't you think that the matter of me being a couple with Wang Guangning is more shocking?

While Zhang Lingyi was extremely puzzled over this, Wang Guangning had already exploded from anger.

"Zhang Lingyi, can you be any more reckless than this?!"

Even over the phone, Zhang Lingyi could imagine Wang Guangning's appearance as the other flushed with anger. Consequently, he replied feebly, "I was just stating a fact."

"Stating your head!" Wang Guangning hmped and hung up. *Clearly, Zhang Lingyi wished for the world to be in chaos.*

He was finished. Wang Guangning seemed to be really furious.

Zhang Lingyi wiped his face. *Ah, he really did just want to help Wang Guangning!*

Wang Guangning cut off the call, then continued reading the post with anguish.

In actuality, he also knew that Zhang Lingyi had done this to help him. It was only that the other had been so daring. If other people had taken it seriously, then things would have been quite difficult to clear up.

If they really were together, then it didn't matter. They might as well just casually come out of the closet.

But the problem was that this was all just an agreement.

Wang Guangning also did not know why he was feeling so uncomfortable.

Thankfully, everyone's focus was not on this. Or rather, no one believed that Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi would really have something with each other.

After all, if it had been a few weeks ago and someone said that he would be a couple with Zhang Lingyi, Wang Guangning would definitely beat that person up into pieces.

Therefore, it wasn't that he didn't understand. It was that the world changed too fast.

Wang Guangning worriedly closed the forum and prepared to play a game, when someone knocked on the door.

The other person living in the dormitory was absent. Only Wang Guangning who was reading the post and Sun Siyang who was taking a bath was left.

"Come in, the door isn't locked." Wang Guangning said.

Hence, the door was pushed open and Zhang Lingyi's bald head which grown a bit of black hair stretched in, "*Shou shou.*"

Wang Guangning's temple twitched and with a fierce expression, he said, "What?"

"Ah, I'm here to apologise!" Zhang Lingyi blinked innocently and slipped in. In his hand, he held a small glass bottle.

“Forget it, I know that you were only trying to help.” Wang Guangning rubbed his head. There was really no way for him to stay irritated at Zhang Lingyi any longer.

“I just knew that *shou shou* is the best.” Zhang Lingyi flattered.

“Enough!” Wang Guangning became more cheerful and he waved his hand, “I’m not angry anymore, so you can quickly get lost now!”

“*En*, since *shou shou* isn’t angry anymore, let’s complete another matter!” Zhang Lingyi shook the small bottle in his hand, “I’ve already eaten vinegar for *shou shou*, but *shou shou* hasn’t eaten vinegar for me!”

Wang Guangning stared at it. *Fuck, it really was a bottle of white vinegar!*

“You want me to drink this?!” Wang Guangning vowed that as long as Zhang Lingyi nodded, he would kick the other back to Mars.

However, it had been stated before that Zhang Lingyi was a brilliant and knowledgeable young man. Thus, he decisively shook his head after seeing the expression on Wang Guangning’s face. “No, this bottle of wine is for you to remember this by.” After he finished speaking, Zhang Lingyi placed it on the table then said in a cool manner, “I’m going to go now.”

Then he rolled out⁷ at high speed.

[7] : Same word and meaning as to when WGN told ZLY to ‘get lost’. It directly translates to ‘roll away’.

Don’t laugh at how he had escaped so quickly in abandon. With his experience, Zhang Lingyi knew that if he had walked just a bit slower, then he would be the one ending up having to drink the contents in that glass bottle.

After exchanging blows with Wang Guangning for so long, Zhang Lingyi had already profoundly understood the difficulties of being a loyal dog type *gong*.

Zhang Lingyi, you tried ~ //pats

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027

“When setting off firecrackers...”

day twenty one| when setting off firecrackers, make sure to cover each other's ears



After Zhang Lingyi had spoken out, the ‘Hotel Incident’ turned overwhelmingly one-sided. Other than that unlucky ‘F University’s number one loser’ who was publicly shamed, Yu Haining’s personal character and moral conduct also became a focus of discussion.

For a person like Yu Haining, if people didn’t usually pay deliberate attention to her, then she would just be known as someone who’s extremely beautiful and plays musical instruments. There would also be a lot of news regarding her pursuers. However, as soon as there are people who are determined to dig out gossip, then all sorts of negative information would be discovered.

For example; her popularity with other females was not high, she was actually quite arrogant and did not place anyone in her eyes, she was suspected as being kept as a mistress, and so on.

However, in the final analysis, these were all just still rumours. Even if many girls did not find her pleasant to the eye, they could only use words to attack Yu Haining as they couldn’t bring out any evidence.

On the next day, after Zhang Lingyi had spoken out, a male student whose feelings had been exploited by Yu Haining uploaded a post. The title was

extremely shocking——

<<Slut Yu Haining Seduces Male Students Into Opening Hotel Rooms to Find a Convenient Father for the Baby in her Stomach>>

According to this student, Yu Haining had been the mistress of numerous wealthy businessmen outside of the campus in the last couple of years, and had been impregnated on several occasions.

This had happened once again, but because she had already aborted too many times, the doctor said that it might no longer be possible for her to conceive a child in the future. However, Yu Haining's sugar daddies all had their own families and were unable to give her a legitimate status. Hence, she decided to use the male students who had chased her in F University. Yu Haining wanted to entice them into having sex with her by pretending to be drunk, then blame them for the existence of the baby.

As one of F University's *xiao cao*, Wang Guangning was her first target.

The male student who posted also attached a photo underneath. It was precisely a copy of the diagnosis that a certain hospital had conducted for Yu Haining.

As soon as this post came out, an uproar stormed the campus.

In just one night, the fresh and pure reputation of the Journalism faculty's goddess, Yu Haining, was destroyed.

Although many people thought that the male student who wrote the post was too harsh, they still couldn't stop themselves from flaming the gossip and joining the discussion one after the other.

Before long, Yu Haining was unable to stand the pressure and dropped out of the university.

In regard to the discussion of the forum, Wang Guangning, who was one of the main parties, did not pay it much attention. Although he didn't view Yu Haining's personal conduct very highly, he still didn't go as far as throwing

tones on her when she was down. Now that she had received such an end, he would not feel regret or pity for her.

After all, everyone's paths are the ones they have chosen themselves.

Just like him at present.



Holding a box of firecrackers in his arms, Wang Guangning stood foolishly on the edge of Moon Lake. Zhang Lingyi took out a stick of incense (that's right, it was exactly the kind of incense people would use when praying to a God) and came to stand excitedly next to him, "*Shou shou*, come and light the firecrackers. I'll cover your ears for you."

Wang Guangning wiped his face and said calmly, "But I'm not afraid of the sounds from firecrackers."

"Ah?" Zhang Lingyi raised his hand and replied, "I'm also not afraid. We're just doing it for fun and to display our feelings for each other, alright?"

"Then, I'll cover your ears for you!" Wang Guangning said.

"That won't work, I'm the *gong*." Zhang Lingyi once again lifted his head and puffed up his chest, then said in a righteous manner, "*Shou shou*, you can't threaten me by saying you won't continue being gay with me!"

In regard to the tricks that Wang Guangning usually used, who could be more familiar with them than him?!

The words that Wang Guangning was just about to say were strangled in his throat. After thinking about it carefully, Wang Guangning recalled that he had indeed threatened Zhang Lingyi with this on several occasions. As someone who had lost the coin toss and had never once experienced the benefit of being a *gong*, Wang Guangning thought that he was truly quite wronged. He said grudgingly, "Fine."

Zhang Lingyi cheered. *Ah, it really wasn't easy for him. After being the gong for so long, this was the first time that he was able to exercise the power of one. Ah, this was indeed comparable to the historic moment when peasants fought for their freedom and successfully attained it.*

Zhang Lingyi couldn't be more moved.

Thus, Wang Guangning took the incense from Zhang Lingyi's hand. Then he inserted the firecracker into the ground, lit up the fuse, and quickly retreated.

Zhang Lingyi immediately stepped forward and covered Wang Guangning's ears while saying, "*Shou shou*, don't be afraid. I'm here."

Wang Guangning rolled his eyes. However, he couldn't repress the endless palpitations caused by the warmth transferred over from Zhang Lingyi's hands. Just as if he had been given an electric shock, Wang Guangning's neck became stiff and he didn't dare to turn around and face the other. He was afraid that his face was currently flushed red.

Wang Guangning really wanted kneel down and yield.

It was at this time, when his thoughts had wandered, that the fuse finished burning and the firecrackers exploded with a loud *bang*.

"Fuck!" Zhang Lingyi—who had been covering Wang Guangning's ears—suddenly jumped back. He patted his chest and said, "That nearly terrified me to death."

Wang Guangning was not scared, and contrary to what was expected, Zhang Lingyi was frightened to the point that his entire body was shaking.

Wang Guangning: "....."

Zhang Lingyi realised the accidental slip of his tongue: "....."

Wang Guangning: "You....."

Zhang Lingyi: "*He he*, I forgot that I'm afraid of firecrackers."

Wang Guangning: “ ”

Scowling miserably, Zhang Lingyi explained, “I was so preoccupied with being gay with you that I forgot about how I had once been bombarded with firecrackers in my childhood.”

The corner of Wang Guangning’s lips twitched. He was already speechless and didn’t know what else to say.

“Then do you want to keep going?” Wang Guangning glanced at the box full of firecrackers and asked calmly.

Zhang Lingyi still held lingering fears due to that trauma as he stared at the firecrackers and was unwilling to just settle everything like this. However.....

“*Shou shou*, how about you cover my ears after the fuse is lit instead?” Zhang Lingyi’s eyes shone.

Wang Guangning slanted him a look, “Then will you be the *shou*?” *Let’s see if you’ll dare to be any more shameless.*

Reality proved that for some people, their shamelessness held no limit. Zhang Lingyi raised his head and pushed out his chest, “Alright, I’m be the *shou* again for today.”

That’s right, ‘again’. Zhang Lingyi, who already had quite a lot of experience, displayed absolutely no pressure regarding this.

Wang Guangning didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. Shoulders dropping, he resigned himself to lighting up the firecrackers. Just as he had retreated back a few steps, Zhang Lingyi moved in front and rested his head against Wang Guangning’s body.

“*Shou shou*, cover my ears.”

Wang Guangning had no other choice but to give the incense stick in his fist to Zhang Lingyi, then use both his hands to cover the other’s ears.

There was another loud *bang*. Wang Guangning felt Zhang Lingyi's body shake slightly, but it wasn't exaggerated at all. Unable to help himself, Wang Guangning broke into laughter, "If you're so scared, then let's stop."

"No, it's fine." Zhang Lingyi was very persistent in regards to this matter about completing the daily tasks as a gay couple. "We'll finish off this box of firecrackers."

As a result, Wang Guangning restrained his temper and accompanied Zhang Lingyi (who wanted to continue setting off the firecrackers, yet was extremely scared of doing so) in finishing each and every one of the firecrackers in the box.

When they reached the last firecracker, Wang Guangning covered Zhang Lingyi's ears as per their agreement. However, after the *bang* sounded, he did not immediately release his hands.

"Zhang Lingyi, do you still remember the task we didn't finish that day on the bus?" Wang Guangning asked, his mouth hovering near the other's ear.

Zhang Lingyi's brain which helped him attain the first-class scholarship quickly reminded him of that day's mishap, and he promptly recalled their failure to complete the task for their great cause.

"*En.*"

"Then let's finish that today," said Wang Guangning. His hands which had been resting over Zhang Lingyi's ears moved downwards, until they reached his waist.

"Sure. It's just as well that I'm the *shou* today." Zhang Lingyi was particularly open about the entire *gong* and *shou* matter. In a natural and unrestrained manner, he pulled Wang Guangning's arms around himself to form a loop. At the same time, Zhang Lingyi seized the opportunity to fall into Wang Guangning's embrace and deliberately said in a bashful tone, "You have to treat *ren jia*¹ well."

[1] : a playful or affectionate/intimate way or referring to oneself.

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Zhang Lingyi, you are natural winner in the world of being gay!

I'll kneel to you!

Wang Guangning finally retrieved himself from that sort of strange feeling after a long time. His head settled on Zhang Lingyi's shoulder, and he lightly placed his cheek against Zhang Lingyi's.

Their skin touched, and two both received a jolt.

This was not the first time that Wang Guangning had hugged Zhang Lingyi. However, the restlessness and agitation he felt now was far more intense and fierce when compared to the instances before.

Their skin clearly emitted warmth, yet what he perceived was that shuddering ice-cold feeling similar to that night when they had watched the stars together and the beer had been pressed against his skin.

Wang Guangning had never dated anyone before. However, he knew that even Yu Haining had not given him this kind of feeling when he pursued her.

It was just like that sentence he had seen before when reading an English text——

Even though an entire glass of ice water was downed, it transomed into two streams of hot tears.

At that time, Wang Guangning hadn't understood it. He had felt that the sentence was too pretentious. Yet, he didn't know why he suddenly thought of this now.

Zhang Lingyi lightly sighed. “*Ah, shou shou*. If you were a girl, then I would definitely chase you!”

Wang Guangning was distracted and his body became rigid. His hands which were around Zhang Lingyi's arms seemed to lose consciousness and

loosened.

That's right. In this university, only you are the one who is able to be matched with me.

It is just that, our sex is the same.

Zhang Lingyi did not discover Wang Guangning's odd reaction and said, "Shou shou, we still have exams for two more subjects until it's all over. Let's not meet up for these couple of days. When the exams are finished, we can go and travel."

Wang Guangning quietly recovered himself and remembered that travelling together was also one of the tasks according to the << 30 Things Couples Must Do Together>> list. Also, their exams just happened to conclude within the next few days, so Wang Guangning nodded.

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translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 028

028

“When travelling, it’s too easy for BL to occur”

day twenty two| travel together to a distant place then hold hands while asking passers-by for directions and take photographs of all the beautiful scenery along the way



Due to the fact that Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi had exams for the next two days, they did not continue their great cause of being gay. When the two days of hellish revising and examinations concluded, they both gave a long sigh.

Some of their classmates who were in the same major as Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi had already bought their tickets to travel back home. For their last exam, they had just directly taken their luggage to the examination room then departed afterwards, thoroughly disappearing from the campus. Most of the other people also left within a day or two after their exams were completed. The few that remained were either waiting for their partners, taking the entrance exam for a graduate program, participating in an internship, or just lazing about in their dormitory and playing games.

The day that the exams finished, Wang Guangning’s dorm room cleared out. Sun Siyang was one of those people who took their suitcases to the examination rooms.

Hence, during the two days after exams had been concluded, Zhang Lingyi stayed in Wang Guangning’s dormitory. Using a map, they searched online

for directions and hunted for a place where they could travel to that was romantic yet not too far away.

After analysing from many angles, they finally decided on Xiamen. However, when it was time to book the tickets, they discovered.....a tragedy!

Ah, so deceptive! Unexpectedly, there were no more tickets for beds on the train!

For a southern city like Xiamen, winter was the peak season for tourism. Coupled with the fact that many colleges and universities had a holiday during this period, countless students (especially couples), would travel to Xiamen. As a result, the tickets for the beds on the trains were sold out within a few days.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's family backgrounds were quite good, so they could have bought airflight tickets instead. However, as students who didn't have any source of income and depended entirely on their family, they both couldn't afford to boldly spend their parents' money just so they could pay the fees for their journey. Thus, after a quick consultation, the two decided to buy tickets for the hard seats.

In any case, the ride would only be for around ten or so hours. Therefore, as men, handling these hard seats should be simple!

In this regard, Wang Guangning actually felt quite surprised.....but also moved.

Initially, Wang Guangning was afraid that Zhang Lingyi would insist on travelling by air since he had seen the other purchasing gifts for his mother with a rich and imposing manner as if he completely didn't understand how to keep house.

Although Wang Guangning was also able to afford it, he would definitely still feel uncomfortable in his heart.

Fortunately, Zhang Lingyi was the same type of person as he was: they both didn't like unrestrainedly spending their family's money.

Wang Guangning thought that the world truly was quite wonderful. Before, his interpretation of Zhang Lingyi was that the other was definitely arrogant and conceited, someone who considered themselves unexcelled on Earth. Wang Guangning was certain that Zhang Lingyi was a person who only knew how to spend his family's money. However, it only after Wang Guangning had truly interacted with him that he realised Zhang Lingyi's outlook of the world and life in general was better than many others.

Even though Zhang Lingyi always appeared as if he was aloof and remote, he was actually very modest and hard-working. He was also extremely polite and measured, as well as not picky about everything. In terms of life-related skills, Zhang Lingyi was more independent than most people, and never took his parents for granted.

Just like him.

Perhaps, this was the reason why Wang Guangning would be moved and attracted to him!

After buying their tickets, they both went out together and bought some travel necessities and food that would be eaten on the train. Then, with each person harbouring their own thoughts, the two packed their luggage and excitedly started on their journey.

The train that they were catching was at eight o'clock in the evening. The estimated time of when they would arrive was at nine o'clock of the next day. Travelling by train was usually quite boring, and paired with the fact that it was currently night, the view outside of the windows were a canvas of black, so there was absolutely nothing to gaze at. Hence, it became even more boring.

There were all types of people occupying the seats on the train. Some people were eating instant noodles, while others were talking on their phones or conversing with their travel partner. There were also a few people

who were already asleep, while the sound of children crying sounded out occasionally. The entire carriage was permeated with a strange smell.

Although Wang Guangning was not afraid of having to endure hardship, it was really just too uncomfortable. Zhang Lingyi was not fairing any better than him, however, he didn't show much of his discomfit.

Wang Guangning only saw Zhang Lingyi leaning against the window with a slight frown. The other then peeled the wrapping off a mint and handed it to Wang Guangning. "*Shou shou*, eat this. If you're tired, then go to sleep. If you're not tired, then let's play cards." As he spoke, Zhang Lingyi reached into his backpack and took out a deck of cards.

Sitting opposite them was a middle-aged man and a girl who seemed to be travelling alone. The man was already deep asleep, while the girl was staring blankly out the window. As soon as she saw Zhang Lingyi pull out the deck of cards, her eyes lit up and she smiled, "Wa~ Can I join you guys?"

"Of course you can." Zhang Lingyi gestured with the deck of cards. Having three people play would be perfect for a few rounds of Fight the Landlord¹.

[1] 斗地主 (dòu dìzhǔ) This is one of the most popular card games played in China. It is played between three people with one pack of cards, and the game starts with the players bidding for the 'landlord' () position. Those who lose the bid or don't bid at all will enter the game as the 'peasants' () team who compete against the landlord. The objective of the game is to be the first player with no cards left.

Consequently, the three people began to play Fight the Landlord while simultaneously chatting.

The girl was very talkative. It didn't take long for Zhang Lingyi and Wang Guangning to learn that she was a university student studying in G City. It was currently a holiday period, so she was going home to visit family. However, her journey would last until the two stops before Xiamen.

This was how the three people passed the next two hours, talking and laughing while playing the card game. Eventually, Wang Guangning felt too tired and decided to sleep.

However, the problem was that he had never sat on these hard seats before. He had already spent a long time moving around and trying to find a comfortable position to sleep in, but with no success.

“You can lean on my shoulder and sleep.” Upon seeing Wang Guangning’s constant shuffling, Zhang Lingyi felt quite uneasy. Hence, he magnanimously patted his own shoulder.

Wang Guangning glanced at the proffered shoulder. Considering the fact that they had already hugged each other before, this little amount of contact was nothing. After all, men shouldn’t bother with such trifles. As a result, Wang Guangning directly rested his head against Zhang Lingyi’s shoulder.

To be honest, this posture was not any more comfortable than lying on a table. However, Wang Guangning didn’t want to move away.

Therefore, he leaned against Zhang Lingyi’s shoulder and eventually fell sleep.

Zhang Lingyi’s head was turned to the side as he watched Wang Guangning. The other man was usually very lively with a bit of a temper, however, he was quite calm when he was sleeping. Wang Guangning’s thin lips were tilted up in a slight curve and his lashes were dark. His fair complexion only made him appear more pure and clean.

It was obviously just a quiet scene. However, Zhang Lingyi didn’t know why it formed an extremely moving picture in his eyes.

After a while, Zhang Lingyi’s gaze which was fixed upon Wang Guangning gradually darkened.

“Uh.....” The girl who was sitting opposite and had been preparing to sleep shot them a complicated look and finally couldn’t help but weakly

say, “Would it be too presumptuous of me to ask whether you two.....are a couple?”

From the moment that she started playing cards with them, she had felt that there was something odd between Zhang Lingyi and Wang Guangning. Normally, men who travelled together were either close friends or brothers, but the interaction between these two did not seem to be as simple and straightforward as that. Instead, there seemed to be a sort of silent intimacy between them both.

It should be said that their relationship was particularly good. Yet, from their manner of speech, it could be seen that they weren’t a pair who had been together for several years.

In this era, gay couples was not anything shocking. As a result, the girl quickly came to this conclusion. At first, she had only been a bit suspicious. It was only when she saw this scene that she was finally unable to restrain herself from asking.

The strange feelings in Zhang Lingyi’s heart which had been welling up in that instant were interrupted by the girl’s question. Lifting his head, Zhang Lingyi smiled and said, “Ah, yes. Don’t we match each other perfectly?”

“*En.*” Initially, the girl had worried that she was too bold and Zhang Lingyi was be angry. Upon seeing him generously admit it, the girl quietly exhaled and laughed, “You must usually treat him extremely well then!”

Zhang Lingyi’s brow twitched. “Why do you say that?”

The girl chuckled and spoke, her words carrying an underlying blessing of wishing them well. “You look at him with a particularly tender gaze.”

When he heard this, Zhang Lingyi jolted and sunk into endless thoughts.

The girl then said something else, but it didn’t enter Zhang Lingyi’s ears. It was only when the station where the girl would get off at arrived and she bid him goodbye, that Zhang Lingyi finally managed to recover.

Quite a lot of people got off at this station. The originally packed compartment was now half-empty, and the rest of the passengers on the train were sleeping. Those who weren't sleeping were either playing on their phones, or just staring off into space.

Inside the carriage, it was very quiet. The whistle blew, and the train once again embarked on its journey.

The sound of the wheels colliding with the railroad track echoed in through the glass window and the carriage swayed slightly.

Wang Guangning slept for the majority of the night. When he felt uncomfortable, he adjusted his posture while one hand simply wound itself around Zhang Lingyi's waist.

Zhang Lingyi stiffened and didn't dare to move. Since nobody else was watching, he took the chance to gaze avariciously at the youth next to him who was fast asleep.

Had his own feelings reached a point where they could no longer be hidden?

To the point that even a random passer-by could easily see his own agitation and restlessness?

Reaching out a hand, Zhang Lingyi lightly touched Wang Guangning's hair which had grown just a little bit longer.

That night, Zhang Lingyi found it difficult to sleep.



Their luck this time was quite good, as the train did not have any delays. At exactly nine o'clock the next day, the train arrived at the Xiamen station.

Wang Guangning had woken up quite early. Although he had slept for the entire night, the quality of it was not good. Hence, he had been in a state of confusion ever since he awoke. Even when they arrived at the station, Wang

Guangning still hadn't shrugged it off. On the other hand, while Zhang Lingyi did not get any sleep last night, his mental condition was better than his. Of course, that was only if the dark circles under Zhang Lingyi's eyes were ignored.

With their backpacks slung over their shoulders, the two allowed themselves to be swept along by the crowd who were all getting off the train. Zhang Lingyi saw Wang Guangning's bewildered appearance, it was as if the other would be carried away by the stream of people at any time. Sighting quietly, Zhang Lingyi stepped forward and grasped Wang Guangning's hand.

Wang Guangning started. His muddled consciousness finally cleared a bit. Wang Guangning raised his head and stared at Zhang Lingyi, his eyes expressing his clear suspicion.

Zhang Lingyi glanced up nonchalantly at the sky, "We have to hold hands and ask passers-by for directions." There was a pause, then he continued, "*En*, we also have to take photos of all the beautiful scenery we see along the way."

After he finished speaking, Zhang Lingyi lifted the camera which was in his other hand and directed it at Wang Guangning. *Kacha!*

Smiling mischievously, he said, "In *xiao gong*'s eyes, the most beautiful scenery is naturally *shou shou*~!"

"Go die!" Furious, Wang Guangning kicked Zhang Lingyi's calf.

"Fuck, that hurts!" Zhang Lingyi gritted his teeth.

"Who said it wouldn't?" Wang Guangning hmped. He dragged Zhang Lingyi forward, "Stop speaking nonsense. Let's quickly get to the place we're going to stay at, I'm exhausted."

Zhang Lingyi, I can see you flirting with Wang Guangning (~ ~)

Chapters for BMHS and RIAIM will be uploaded soon ~

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 029

029

“Drinking together — as for after becoming intoxicated...hehehe~”

day twenty three| drink together and get drunk



The two people arrived at the hotel where they had previously scheduled their stay. Throwing down their baggage, they both took a shower before pouncing onto a bed and caught up on some sleep. It was already afternoon by the time they awoke.

Wang Guangning had already slept for a while on the train, so he got up first. Upon seeing that Zhang Lingyi was still asleep, Wang Guangning didn't disturb him. Instead, he lazily stretched his body before walking over to the window to gaze at the scenery outside.

The place where they were staying at was an apartment next to Xiamen University. It was quite close to the ocean, and the window faced the water directly. As soon as Wang Guangning pushed open the window, a humid breeze blew in from the sea.

There was an underlying smell of fish hidden within the breeze; yet, it gave people an unexpectedly comfortable feeling.

Wang Guangning breathed in deeply. The colour of the ocean in Xiamen was not the sky-blue as shown on TV, but rather, it was blue with hints of light grey. The water extended out all the way to where the horizon started.

Wang Guangning's mood was quite good, so he leaned against the frame of the window while studying the Xiamen tourist guide on his phone. He was researching places that provided snacks which were a speciality of Xiamen.

When Zhang Lingyi woke up, he saw Wang Guangning resting against the window with his head bowed as he stared at his phone in concentration. A corner on the lower hem of Wang Guangning's clothes was lightly brushed aside by the breeze, causing him to seem like a manifestation of a poster.

Zhang Lingyi took in a deep breath, then said in a loud voice, "Ah, I'm nearly starving to death! *Shou shou*, let's set off on our journey to vanquish delicacies."

By following the directions on the map on the tourist guide, the two found a bus and headed towards Zhong Shan Road. It was currently the peak season for tourism in Xiamen, so there were a particularly large number of tourists around. Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi casually moved about within the tide of people. Whatever food caught their eye, they would buy it.

"*Shou shou*, eat this. It's delicious." In Zhang Lingyi's palm, there was a bowl of sipunculid worm jelly. He jabbed a toothpick into one piece and ate it. Then he used a different toothpick to stab it into another one and brought the worm jelly to Wang Guangning's mouth.

Wang Guangning held a cup of grass jelly in one hand with a bottle of freshly pressed guava juice in the other. He was disoriented and confused from eating so much. To Wang Guangning, the food presented before him was dazzling. Hence, when Zhang Lingyi offered him a jelly-like substance, Wang Guangning didn't ask anything and directly ate it.

"*En*, it's alright. A bit cold though." Wang Guangning swallowed the worm jelly and frowned.

"I think it's quite delicious." Upon seeing that Wang Guangning didn't like it, Zhang Lingyi quickly ate the rest of the worm jelly. Moving his head closer to Wang Guangning, he said, "*Shou shou*, I want to drink some grass jelly."

Wang Guangning handed the cup of grass jelly over to Zhang Lingyi, but the other did not take it. Instead, he simply drank from the cup that was still in Wang Guangning's hand. With an expression of content, Zhang Lingyi remarked, "It's good."

"*En*. Zhang Lingyi, I want to try that bun¹." Wang Guangning saw a stall with a signboard selling buns that were highly recommended by the Xiamen tourist guide. He nudged Zhang Lingyi and nodded his chin towards it.

[1] : Not sure about the translation of this bun, but it literally translates to: Jin Bao Yin— (gold) (bun/wrapping) (silver).

"Oh, sure." Since Wang Guangning was carrying something in both hands, Zhang Lingyi was the one shouldering the responsibility of buying food. He bought one of the buns and fed it to Wang Guangning. Upon taking a bite, Wang Guangning exclaimed that it was delicious.

"Is it really that good?" Faced with Wang Guangning's expression of satisfaction, Zhang Lingyi also took a bite from the part already eaten by the other. The food that they had eaten numbered to a significant amount, so they basically shared most of the food they had bought. The pair had long discarded the mentality of 'this is mine, that is yours'.

"Ah, it really does taste quite good." While speaking, Zhang Lingyi took another bite.

"This one's mine. If you want to eat, go and buy another one." Wang Guangning protested quickly upon seeing that Zhang Lingyi had already consumed more than half of the bun. Zhang Lingyi laughed, before running away.

There was plenty of street food in Xiamen that suited their tastes. Since the two would eat whatever that found to their liking, it wasn't long before they felt as if they would burst from eating so much.

"Oh, I can't handle anymore." Wang Guangning drank the last bit of the grass jelly then threw the empty paper cup into a trash can by the side of the road.

“I don’t think I can eat anything else either.” Zhang Lingyi rubbed his stomach and had the urge to roll his eyes.

“Let’s go for a walk and let everything digest,” suggested Wang Guangning, despite the fact that his line of sight was pinned to a long queue of people waiting to buy mochi.

“Alright, don’t look anymore. We can come and eat here again tomorrow.” Zhang Lingyi reached for Wang Guangning’s hand. He casually threaded their fingers together as they strolled down the road slowly.

Sometimes, an appropriate atmosphere can reduce people’s unease and restlessness. It can transform something that was once unthinkable to one that feels reasonable and right.

Maybe, it’s because of the beautiful scenery and food.

Maybe, it’s because of the unfamiliar stream of people.

Maybe, it’s because here, they only know each other.

Even if their fingers were threaded together as they walked down the road leisurely, they did not feel that there was anything strange or unnatural about it.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi ambled down Zhong Shan Road, gazing at the nightscape and taking photos along the way.

Suddenly, Wang Guangning halted.

“*Shou shou*, what’s wrong?” Zhang Lingyi followed Wang Guangning’s stare and then the corner of his mouth twitched.

Unexpectedly, it was a claw machine.

“Hey, you want to try and win a stuffed toy?” *Oh god, did he just accidentally discover something again?* Zhang Lingyi hadn’t expected that Wang Guangning was actually so childish at heart. He silently looked at the other in disdain.

“I want that SpongeBob one.” Wang Guangning stared at the yellow cuddly toy that was situated at the very top of the pile. If they were in G city and he saw the SpongeBob toy there, Wang Guangning wouldn’t want to buy it. However, the environment is truly a wonderful thing.

For example, he felt completely relaxed in this unfamiliar place and couldn’t help but want to do something willful.

Zhang Lingyi had almost forgotten that Wang Guangning had a SpongeBobphilia. orz

“If you want the toy, then try capturing it.” Zhang Lingyi searched around in his clothes then yanked out four coins. Wang Guangning joyfully took them and inserted it into the machine to start.

Reality has proved that high IQ does not equal strong hands-on ability.

“Forget it, you and that SpongeBob toy aren’t fated.” Zhang Lingyi patted Wang Guangning’s shoulder. “This isn’t easy to control anyway.”

Wang Guangning was unwilling and poked around in his pockets, but was unable to find any coins.

The truth was, he knew that such a machine relied mostly on luck. Sometimes, there would be success. Other times, there would only be failure. Therefore, Wang Guangning did not continue to insist on playing and resentfully left with Zhang Lingyi.

The returned to their residence with a large bag of beer after having decided that they would continue their next mission of being a gay couple —— drinking together and getting drunk.

The floor of their flat was covered with carpet, so the pair sat next to the window and felt that it was quite comfortable. Beer cans littered the ground as Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi drank while gazing out at the ocean.

The truth was, as soon as they started drinking, they both couldn’t help but recall the *incident* which had happened that night when they went star-

gazing. Although they didn't know what the other's reaction had been at that time, it was still very embarrassing.

Thus, in order to prevent themselves from thinking about that memory, the two men drank in silence.

The result of this was that.....they both became drunk very quickly.

Earlier, they had both eaten to the point of feeling like they would burst. Just when they had finally calmed down, they were filling themselves up with beer.

"Ugh....." Wang Guangning ran to the bathroom with a hand held over his mouth. His steps were unsteady, clearly hinting at his currently intoxicated state.

Zhang Lingyi intentionally provoked him. " *Shou shou*, you finally have it! Dafa's going to have a younger brother!"

Wang Guangning felt dizzy and didn't take notice of Zhang Lingyi's words. He vomited the sour liquid into the wash basin, then splashed his face with cold water until he felt soberer.

After coming out of the bathroom, Wang Guangning was faced with the scene of Zhang Lingyi lying on the ground. Underneath his six-pack, Zhang Lingyi's belly and waist were slightly bulging as he observed the ceiling blankly. He seemed as if he really could not handle anymore, despite the can of beer that was still held in his hand.

"Hey. You're still drinking?" Wang Guangning lightly kicked Zhang Lingyi's wrist. His head was still reeling and he couldn't stand properly. Wang Guangning lowered himself to lie down beside Zhang Lingyi.

"Drink! Why stop drinking?" Zhang Lingyi listlessly waved his beer can, looking like a fish that was struggling not to die.

Upon seeing this, Wang Guangning laughed. He wasn't a hypocrite; since he had said that he would drink, then he naturally wouldn't just stop here.

Opening another two cans, Wang Guangning bumped them against Zhang Lingyi's.

"Cheers!" Zhang Lingyi shouted. He drank directly from his position where he laid on the ground, causing trails of beer to slip from the corner of his mouth.

"Ah, how terrible." Sitting up, Zhang Lingyi rubbed his lips with the back of his hand.

"Do you regret it now?" Wang Guangning gloated while giving him a kick.

"Don't laugh." Zhang Lingyi pounced on Wang Guangning in indignation. His mind was already extremely hazy, and his actions were no longer controlled by rationality. Zhang Lingyi poured the rest of the beer in his hand directly onto Wang Guangning's neck.

The cold liquid dripped down his clothes, along the sharp curve of Wang Guangning's neck. He shivered.

"Zhang Lingyi, I'm going to kill you." Angered, Wang Guangning leapt over towards the other man in a fierce move.

Unable to evade in time, Zhang Lingyi was pushed to the ground. Wang Guangning just happened to fall into a kneeling position near Zhang Lingyi's waist.

It was as if the scene under the stars was repeating itself.

But this time, they were both drunk and the chaos in their heads prevented them from feeling any embarrassment in this situation. Instead, they laughed and continued to mess around.

"Why are you so stingy....." Zhang Lingyi grabbed Wang Guangning's collar and pulled the other's entire upper half down until their bodies were pasted together. "I'll drink with you....." Before he finished speaking, Zhang Lingyi's head dropped onto Wang Guangning's neck.

Wang Guangning shuddered as he felt Zhang Lingyi's lips touching his skin. Wang Guangning was quite sensitive and ticklish so he couldn't hold back his laughter. Unable to balance himself, Wang Guangning sat on Zhang Lingyi's belly.

"Ugh....." With his stomach that had been filled to the brim suddenly sat upon, Zhang Lingyi could no longer hold back and vomited on the spot.

"You're so disgusting!" Wang Guangning retreated, but didn't control his strength and ended up falling on his back.

"Fuck." His muddled consciousness caused him to be unable to get up. Thus, Wang Guangning simply laid where he was, his feet curled around Zhang Lingyi's.

"Don't vomit on me." Wang Guangning gave the other a kick, only to end up feeling somewhat nauseous too. *Oh~ There was nothing he could do...it seemed that he was going to vomit...*

Considering that Zhang Lingyi had already dirtied the ground, Wang Guangning gave up and directly vomited on the carpet too.

He felt more comfortable afterwards, even though his head was still a blank.

"*Shou shou~*" Zhang Lingyi called out to him weakly.

"What?" Wang Guangning answered back in the same tone.

"Do you regret becoming a gay couple with me?" Zhang Lingyi abruptly asked a question that was completely irrelevant to their current situation.

The blankness in Wang Guangning's mind became even more empty.

Regret being gay with you?

Of course, I don't regret it. After all, it was all fake anyway.

Even if he wanted to regret, he should at least regret.....why was this agreement just a fake play?

Wang Guangning thought for a long period of time, before whimpering, “Regret.....regret it to death.....”

Zhang Lingyi had only asked the question subconsciously. Yet, when he heard the answer, he felt somewhat foolish and dazed.

From the very start, it was he who had been passionate about it all. Wang Guangning had merely been coerced by himself and only participated because he had no other choice.

The fact that he would feel regret, Zhang Lingyi had long foreseen it.

So why did he still feel so disappointed when he heard Wang Guangning’s answer? To the point that his heart was faintly hurting?

Zhang Lingyi stared blankly up at the ceiling, his mind feeling even emptier than before.

The most frightening thing about a fake play was that even though you knew it was false, you couldn’t help but wish it as true.

It’s been a long time since my last update, but I promised myself I wouldn’t post until all of my SACs were completed (_ _*)

The next chapter is one of my favourites, and I’m hoping to have it out today ~

/teaser for the next chapter/

ZLY: *points at lips* (³)

WGN: >///< Chu ~

ZLY: (: ^ :)

translator: k i a i

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ABG30D; 030

030

“Auctioning first kiss...and kissing for real”

day twenty four| accompany each other to complete a wish



On the second day of their stay in Xiamen, the two went and visited Kulangsu.

Kulangsu was indeed a very beautiful place that was surrounded by the ocean. The European architectures and stores lined along the streets were all saturated with a romantic flavour.

If there weren't so many people, then this place would have been the perfect location for couples' dates.

“*Shou shou*, look at the camera.” Zhang Lingyi held a camera and directed it at Wang Guangning's revealed teeth.

Wang Guangning glanced at the crowd of people passing by around them, then curled his lips upwards as his interest waned.

“I feel so thirsty...I'm going to buy milk tea, do you want anything?” Wang Guangning asked Zhang Lingyi.

Still fiddling with the camera, Zhang Lingyi replied with: “I'll have the same as you.”

By the time Wang Guangning had come back from having bought milk tea for both of them, he found Zhang Lingyi still standing in the same position with a dazed expression on his face.

Following Zhang Lingyi's line of sight, Wang Guangning saw that he was staring at a newly wedded pair posing for their wedding photographs.

The bricks were a warm red, and the walls a pale white. Green vines extended along the window frame, and a wooden fence (that just about reached the height of one's calves) surrounded the wall. Fresh flowers bloomed from where they were half-hidden beyond the fence. The bride wore a white dress and stood within the clusters of flowers while the groom held her from behind. Happiness and bliss echoed on both of their faces.

It truly was an extremely moving scene.

"Do you envy them?" Wang Guangning sipped his milk tea, his expression blank as he asked the question.

"Of course, I envy!" Zhang Lingyi gazed at the bride in fascination. "*Shou shou*, you'd definitely look very beautiful if you wore that dress!"

"Get lost!" Irritated, Wang Guangning felt the intense urge to pout his milk tea over Zhang Lingyi. However, when he thought of the sorry figures that they had cut when they woke up this morning as well as the chaos surrounding them, he resisted. "You can go and wear a wedding dress! *Laozi* is a real man!"

Just as Wang Guangning's voice fell, they saw the bride roll her eyes then speak in a rough voice. "Are we done with taking the photos? This is damn annoying!"

She was unexpectedly a he!

What the fuck?! Could this be any more horrifying?

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were stunned.

What kind of plot twist was this?!

The photographer replied that they were required to shoot just one more set, and the bride stated in exasperation, “Next time you need a bride, don’t ask me to cosplay! This is so irritating!”

As it turned out, they were from the cosplay circle and that man was cosplaying as a bride. Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi finally calmed down and proceeded to silently walk away.

Yet, Zhang Lingyi couldn’t help but fantasise about Wang Guangning wearing a wedding dress. Hence, he sighed ruefully and without an ounce of regret, said: “*Shou shou*, I think that we should also take a few wedding photographs!”

Then he was sent flying with a slap from Wang Guangning.

On their way to the beach at the back of the island, the two paused at random intervals before resuming their walk again. When they finally arrived, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were faced with a beautiful view of the beach reflected in the sunlight.

Zhang Lingyi grasped Wang Guangning’s hand then stepped onto the sand.

“*Shou shou*, what’s your wish?” asked Zhang Lingyi. *En, as an experienced xiao gong, he had not forgotten today’s task.*

Wang Guangning stared up at the sky and thought about it. His most recent wish was.....

“I want that SpongeBob toy we saw last night!” *That cuddly toy from the claw machine was so difficult to obtain!*

“Eh.....” Zhang Lingyi looked at him blankly. “Alright. I’ll try to find a way to get it for you!”

“Then what’s your wish?” Wang Guangning questioned.

Zhang Lingyi let go of his hand and gave Wang Guangning a sly look. “I’m already so old, but I haven’t kissed anyone yet. I’ve always wanted to find someone to kiss!”

The kiss that he had shared with Wang Guangning that time when their lips had accidentally touched while they were shaving did not count. That was what Zhang Lingyi believed.

Of course, Wang Guangning was also too embarrassed to challenge this matter.

However, he felt slightly pained as he stared at the other man. *Why could Zhang Lingyi always speak of such uncertain matters with such a calm and assured tone?*

“So then, where should I go and find someone to fulfill my wish?” Wang Guangning obviously wasn’t an idiot to foolishly think that he should ‘personally’ help Zhang Lingyi complete this wish.

“Ah~ *Shou shou*, you don’t have to be so bashful!” Zhang Lingyi blinked his lashes at wang Guangning. Upon seeing that the other’s expression was a bit stiff, he did not tease him. Zhang Lingyi touched his chin for a moment, then his eyes brightened. Changing his posture into one that practically screamed ‘badass’, Zhang Lingyi leaned over and said in a domineering tone, “How about we go and auction my first kiss?” ㄟ(㉨)=

Heavens, please send down lightning and strike me to death!

Wang Guangning stared up at the sky sorrowfully. With a calm and collected expression pasted on his face, he said, “How are you going to auction it?”

“Hehe~!” Zhang Lingyi laughed loudly,

Not long afterwards, an incomprehensible scene appeared on the beautiful beach of Kulangsu—

A handsome guy wearing a hoodie was holding a thick cardboard sign with a set of large characters written on it——*auctioning first kiss*.

Beside him stood another guy who didn’t lose to the first one in terms of attractiveness. This youth was watching the proceedings with his arms

crossed over his chest.

They formed a truly strange yet seductive picture.

(It has to be said that Zhang Lingyi really did have foresight on how to present himself. He knew that even though he was world-shatteringly attractive, his bald head would definitely lower his score by a bit. Despite the fact that there was already some black fuzz on his head, it still didn't look as good as before. Hence, the existence of a hoodie was particularly important, especially since the people surrounding him seemed extremely lost and bewildered.)

There were many people who came to Xiamen as a holiday, with a great number of them on Kulangsu island. Among the tourists, there was a large population of youths and a large number of them were girls.

Therefore, countless people came to look at Zhang Lingyi.

Normally, Wang Guangning would have retreated far, far away.

However, the effects of travelling as a tourist were wondrous. People would feel a strange sense of security when in an unfamiliar environment. After all, no one here knew them. Even if they did lose face, it wouldn't affect their lives in any way.

Hence, Wang Guangning calmly stood to one side and watched Zhang Lingyi's performance.

Zhang Lingyi lifted the cardboard sign and shot the crowd a charming smile—one capable of causing the collapse of humanity. After confirming that all the women had been completely bedazzled, Zhang Lingyi then cleared his throat and announced, “Hello, ladies and gentlemen. I¹ came to Xiamen for a short holiday but accidentally lost my wallet. I'm now going to auction my first kiss so I can collect some money as my travel expenses for my journey home. I guarantee that this is completely fair and sincere² to all, and the kiss will definitely be worth the price³. The starting price will be fifty *yuan*⁴, so feel free to bid, everyone. The highest bidder will receive the kiss!”

[1] : the humble form of ‘I’ used in speeches.

[2] : cheating neither old nor young (idiom); treating youngsters and old folk equally scrupulously; offering sincere treatment to all and fair trade to old and young alike.

[3] : genuine goods at fair prices

[4] Around ten dollars in AUD.

Wang Guangning: “.....”

The crowd of spectators: “.....”

This speech sounded very familiar to everyone. *Wasn’t this just an improved version of the words commonly spoken by beggars in downtown areas and city centres?*

Just as absolute silence permeated the scene, a girl’s sharp voice suddenly called out, “I bid a hundred!”

Upon hearing the shout, everyone looked over, only to see a chubby girl holding a packet of potato chips. Her face was flushed red with excitement.

With her build..... Wang Guangning unkindly remarked in his head that she must also still have yet to give away her first kiss.

En. With this, Zhang Lingyi couldn’t be considered as having suffered a loss!

However, after the girl had broken the silence, the atmosphere quickly became more lively and several other girls followed suit in calling out their bids.

“One hundred and ten.”

“One hundred and twenty.”

“I bid a hundred and thirty.”

.....

The bid rose rapidly to the two hundred range.

Everyone's attitude and mentality were somewhat more relaxed than usual. In any case, they were all in a strange and unfamiliar environment. What harm was there in doing something crazy?

The most important part was, Zhang Lingyi was so ridiculously attractive—how could anyone *not* want to give this a try?

After the price had reached two hundred, the people calling bids became more hesitant. Even though they were all spending so much money in buying a handsome stranger's kiss, they still didn't know for sure whether it really was his first kiss. Besides, even if he was attractive, spending so much money would still cause them to feel a phantom pain.

"Three hundred!" A girl's voice shouted out abruptly in a domineering manner. Shocked, everyone turned to stare at the chubby girl who had originally called out the first bid.

This time, no one fought against her.

Zhang Lingyi looked at the girl with a complicated expression in his eye, then glanced at the silent crowd. Wiping his face, Zhang Lingyi resigned himself to his fate. "Since no one else wants to bid any higher, then my first kiss will belong to this lady here!"

This was indeed extremely tragic!

The chubby girl enthusiastically pulled out three red notes. Running up to Zhang Lingyi, she blushed.

"Here."

Zhang Lingyi took the notes handed over by her, then closed his eyes in resignation and lowered his head. "Come."

The crowd silently restrained their laughter, sympathy etched across their faces.

Wang Guangning was still standing off to the side with his arms crossed over his chest. He watched on with a blank expression.

The chubby girl shyly leaned in with red cheeks. Just when she was about to touch Zhang Lingyi's lips, her eyes flashed and she suddenly reached out to embrace Zhang Lingyi's neck. She kissed him fiercely.

“Wu wu wu.....” Zhang Lingyi struggled to break free. The chubby girl had unexpectedly tried to poke her tongue into his mouth, but he kept his lips firmly shut.

With great difficulty, Zhang Lingyi finally managed to push the girl away. He held an expression of both terror and relief on his face, as if he had just been given a new lease of life.

The manner in which the chubby girl held herself was not as fierce as before. She asked bashfully, “Handsome, my name is Lin Zhiluo⁵. What's yours?”

[5] : name of ABG30D's author~ 

Zhang Lingyi took a step back then ruthlessly said, “My name is Hong Lingjin⁶!” *This was simply him doing good deeds, alright?*

[6] : referring to the youth organisation, Young Pioneers. In internet slang, this describes someone who helps others.

The onlookers were finally unable to hold in their laughter. Unable to fight them, Zhang Lingyi grabbed Wang Guangning and they ran away.

Zhang Lingyi only felt relieved once they had boarded the return ferry that would take them back to the mainland. With fear still lingering inside his heart, Zhang Lingyi scowled and said, “Fuck, that girl was too cruel.”

A silent ‘you deserved it’ pinned itself across Wang Guangning’s face as he quietly turned to gaze at the scenery around the ferry. The sea breeze blew gently along the rippling waves. Wang Guangning didn’t know why he was suddenly reminded of a friend’s evaluation of Xiamen——this was a place suitable for everyone and anyone to visit.

The expression on his face momentarily changed to .

“*Shou shou*, you have no conscience!” Zhang Lingyi complained.

“Alright, be good~” Wang Guangning perfunctorily touched Zhang Lingyi’s practically bald head. Although he thought that the scene just then was quite funny, his heart had still felt a bit uncomfortable upon seeing the girl kiss Zhang Lingyi.

For a while, Zhang Lingyi stared at him in resentment. Then he became cheerful once again. Waving the three red notes, he beamed. “*Shou shou*, now we have enough money to try that claw machine again!”

Faced with Zhang Lingyi’s bright smile, Wang Guangning felt his gloominess disappear like smoke in thin air.

Zhang Lingyi was doing his best to create wonderful memories for them. Hence, even though Wang Guangning would feel dejected after their agreement ended and everything returned back to how it was originally, he wouldn’t be sad about the fact that it had all been just a ploy. No, he would be sad because what he once had with Zhang Lingyi was beautiful.

Therefore, Wang Guangning would not blame Zhang Lingyi.

The two returned back to Zhong Shan Road and had dinner. They also bought the mochi that Wang Guangning had drooled for an entire night over. After that, the pair found their way to the claw machine they found yesterday.

“SpongeBob, come to me~!” Zhang Lingyi rolled up his sleeves and exchanged his notes with the boss of the claw machine for coins worth three hundred *yuan* ⁷.

[7] The official currency of Chinese coins.

The boss had been in this business for a long time, yet this was his first time meeting such a wealthy customer—especially one that was so handsome. Thinking that Zhang Lingyi was trying to please his girlfriend or something, the boss eagerly ran out, wanting to satisfy his curiosity. In the end, he did not find a beautiful lady, but another handsome guy instead.

With his experience, the boss had already seen everything that there could be to see. However, having two men exchanging money for coins worth three hundred *yuan* in order to have several tries at a claw machine was really something he was perceiving for the first time. He couldn't help but feel that the world was moving too fast for him to comprehend.

“Surely, you didn't need to exchange so much coins?” Noticing the amount of coins Zhang Lingyi was carrying in a small basket, Wang Guangning felt slightly ashamed. His skills weren't *that* bad, right?

“It's okay, *shou shou*.” Zhang Lingyi was in high spirits. “Our goal for today is to grab all the stuffed toys in this machine!”

Reality proved that people should not behave so obstinately.

Two hours later, Zhang Lingyi and Wang Guangning stared with utmost dejection at their empty basket devoid of any coins and the SpongeBob toy that was still separated from them by a piece of glass.

The boss who owned the claw machine and had witnessed this entire process couldn't help but think that they were the two people with the worst luck that he had ever met.

“Hey, if you both like that SpongeBob so much, I can give it to you for free!” The boss had made a profit of 300 *yuan* and since he did indeed possess a conscience, decided to act upon a rarely given generosity.

He had thought that Wang Guangning would accept with joy. However, the person in question only became angry and turned his face away. “No. Thank

you though, boss.” If he took the SpongeBob toy, then it would definitely become a source of humiliation and a testimony of his bad luck.

The boss thought that he had already done as much as he could, so he didn’t say anything else and left the scene.

“Then, *shou shou*, how about we try again?”

Wang Guangning glanced at the SpongeBob toy. The 300 *yuan* that they had spent was earned through Zhang Lingyi’s stunt, so he didn’t feel any regret about using it.

Zhang Lingyi continued, “After all, this was your wish.” *And he had promised to help Wang Guangning to fulfill this wish!*

“Forget it.” Wang Guangning swept his eyes over the stuffed toy, then looked away with frustration evidence on his face. “I’ve decided to change my wish.”

“Oh~” Zhang Lingyi felt surprised. As expected, *xiao shou* was quite fickle. “What did you change it to?”

“The same as you. I’ll give away my first kiss too.” Wang Guangning shrugged his shoulders in a joking manner, then suddenly stepped forward. Both his hands reached out to hold Zhang Lingyi’s head firmly in place, then his lips descended upon the other’s.

In his shock, Zhang Lingyi momentarily forgot to react.

The only things that he could perceive were Wang Guangning’s face leaning in close then magnifying, and the feeling of soft lips touching lightly against his.

At that moment, the clamouring of the world seemed to quieten.

Somewhere in the distance, fireworks were being lit up and the night sky bloomed with gorgeous lights that brightened up the dark.

Wang Guangning's eyes were closed, so he did not see the colours reflected in Zhang Lingyi's.

Right now, the stream of people flowing past and the noise of the city had nothing to do with them.

٩(˙◡˙) Progress ~

/teaser for the next chapter/

TITLE:*shou shou*.....I'm hard!

Please prepare tissues ~ (o^ ^o)

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 031

031

“Sleeping together for one night, then——*shou shou*.....I’m hard!”

day twenty five|sleep together for one night



“*En*. This way, both our wishes will be fulfilled.” Raising an eyebrow nonchalantly, Wang Guangning smiled and let go of Zhang Lingyi.

“Wang Guangning, you really are.....” Zhang Lingyi’s expression darkened. He felt as if he should be angry, but his anger would contain a hidden sliver of worry that Zhang Lingyi was not willing to reveal. Maybe, for Wang Guangning, this was only just a crazy game. If Zhang Lingyi took this seriously, then it would simply become a joke.

Zhang Lingyi recalled how he had done something similar last time when they were shaving. However, that had been an accident. Yet, upon thinking about it, maybe that was why Wang Guangning had done such an action. After all, it wouldn’t be the first time.

So then, what right did he have to be angry?

Zhang Lingyi stared at Wang Guangning, his face completely black. In the end, he did erupt in anger. He also did not gather his courage and ask for the meaning behind Wang Guangning’s kiss.

Because maybe, that kiss had no meaning at all.

Wang Guangning found that Zhang Lingyi's current complexion did not seem to be very good. At the same time, he was also not exploding in fury or asking any questions. Wang Guangning's heart momentarily sank, but his expression was still placid. He said, "Next, let's go to the beach."

The pair's plan for their last night in Xiamen was to sit on the sandy shores for the entire night and wait for the sunrise to appear.

Zhong Shan Road was a distance away from the beach next to Xiamen University. It would take around thirty minutes to walk there, but they both had time so they did not take the bus. Instead, the two slowly strolled in the direction of the beach.

However, this time, they did not hold hands and the cacophony of the city during the day was also absent.

Pretending as if nothing had happened, Wang Guangning picked a few perfunctory topics to talk about.

Zhang Lingyi absently replied to him, his attention was not wholly focused on their conversation.

Despite the fact that the words spoken from their mouths were entirely irrelevant to their situation, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi still managed to somehow continue talking.

Xiamen University was known as the most beautiful university in China. The campus was indeed very picturesque, even the student dormitories were like garden houses. For the two G City university students, seeing them incited envy. The thing that defied the natural order the most was that the campus was constructed on the waterfront. By going out the back gates of the university and passing through a tunnel, one would reach a long stretch of soft sand that was a distance away from the highway.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi bought some snacks and beer, then sat on the beach. They watched the now darkened surface of the sea and the surging of the undercurrents. In the sky, the moon shined bright. A light

breeze from the ocean brushed past them, carrying an underlying taste of salt.

The two ate handfuls of peanuts and drank a few cans of beer. Occasionally, they would exchange a couple of words. The feeling of not having to think too deeply or ponder about anything worrisome caused Wang Guangning to become a bit drowsy.

“Zhang Lingyi, are you sure that we really need to stay here for an entire night while waiting for the sunrise?” Wang Guangning squinted at Zhang Lingyi.

Zhang Lingyi shivered at that exact moment, feeling a bit cold. He immediately said, “How about we go back to the hotel for now? We could play cards and watch TV together, then come back out to see the sunrise when it’s about time.”

Their views were both the same¹ regarding this, so they promptly gathered everything then returned to the hotel.

[1] : lit. to be together from the first beat; to hit it off; to click together; to chime in easily.



After pulling on loose and comfortable clothes, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi climbed onto their soft bed. Laying down, they both sighed in relief.

The room that they had booked was had a King-sized Size bed, so it was perfect for the two of them to sleep in.

A large-screen TV was placed directly opposite the bed. Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi were bored so they turned it on.

A popular drama was currently being broadcast, so they decided to watch it.

A while later, an advertisement started playing and Wang Guangning ran to the bathroom. Zhang Lingyi lazily changed the channel, then used the remote control to go through all the channels at least once. He discovered that most channels were either showing commercials with scantily clad girls, or various kinds of extremely exaggerated shopping infomercials. Zhang Lingyi yawned. He was *so bored*. *How was he supposed to endure an entire night of this?!*

Just as Zhang Lingyi was feeling depressed, the scene on the TV changed and the sounds of ‘*en~en~ah, ah~*’ could be heard.

Unexpectedly, there were adult channels!

Zhang Lingyi watched in stupefaction as the big-breasted young woman on the screen moved energetically over the lower half of a sturdy man, a charming and enticing expression across her face.

What the fuck was this?

How could such a channel appear on the televisions of a heavily censored country like China?

At first, Zhang Lingyi was astonished. Then he felt.....slightly excited.

After all, he was a normal man whose *functions* and *capabilities* were completely intact. He was no stranger to such films. As a result, Zhang Lingyi couldn’t help but feel aroused upon seeing this scene on a dark and moonless night like today.

Just as he was staring at the screen with great interest, Wang Guangning walked out from the bathroom. The first thing that he noticed was that the sounds coming from the TV didn’t seem quite right; then he realised that Zhang Lingyi’s expression was also a bit odd. Finally, he turned around in the direction of the television.

Fuck!

“How could this kind of program exist?” The expression on Wang Guangning’s face was very close to cracking.

When Zhang Lingyi heard Wang Guangning suddenly speak, he didn’t seem to be embarrassed or awkward in the least. Instead, he excitedly said, “*Shou shou*, let’s watch it together.”

Wang Guangning was unable to stop the corner of his lips from momentarily twisting. Although he had seen such films before and even watched them with his friends on occasion, he was still a *xiao cao* with class. Therefore, for the majority of the time, Wang Guangning would only secretly watch them alone!

Faced with Zhang Lingyi’s warm expression of invitation, Wang Guangning silently went and lifted the blanket on the bed before sliding in.

The film playing was a typical Japanese one. Overall, it was quite dry and lacking. However, for hot-blooded youths, the impact of the scenes on the television was still very strong.

Hence, it was not long after when Zhang Lingyi (who had thought that his skin was quite thick) shot an embarrassed glance at Wang Guangning. “*Shou shou*, I’m.....hard.”

Fuck. Did Zhang Lingyi have to speak so bluntly?!

Wang Guangning felt as if he was going to go crazy. Originally, he had also become agitated upon watching the film. A certain part of his body was just about to raise its head. As soon as Zhang Lingyi spoke, that heat was pressed down in a flash and Wang Guangning only felt incomparably .

“I’ll go and relieve myself in the bathroom!” Zhang Lingyi moved in preparation to get up.

Wang Guangning’s hand (which had been previously hidden under the blanket) suddenly reached out and covered Zhang Lingyi’s arousal. With great effort, Wang Guangning maintained the calm expression on his face as he offered, “Or, I could help you?”

Zhang Lingyi stiffened then shifted uncomfortably. He laughed, “That wouldn’t really be proper...”

However, Wang Guangning’s hand was already lightly rubbing him over the loose pants he wore. This was Wang Guangning’s first time touching another person there, so it was a bit awkward. His face was slightly red.

Zhang Lingyi was currently unable to study Wang Guangning’s expression though. The lower half of his body was being eroded by a pleasurable sensation, causing him to immediately draw in a sharp breath. Zhang Lingyi gripped Wang Guangning’s wrist, “Guangning.....”

This time, Zhang Lingyi had called him by his name.

Wang Guangning tried hard to prevent his inner uneasiness from leaking through. Attempting to play it down, he said, “I’m also a bit hard, so how about we.....help each other.”

Zhang Lingyi was dumbfounded.

Wang Guangning glanced over at the darkness outside the window. “The scenery is beautiful, as is the night. Why not try it?”

Zhang Lingyi faintly felt as if there was something not quite right about this, as if control had been lost and was rushing towards an unpredictable direction.

He should reject it. He should stop it here. But somehow, he was unable to say anything.

It was like sinking into a swamp—the harder one tried to escape, the deeper they would fall.

Yes, with such beautiful scenery and it being such a wonderful night spent with an equally great person, why not try doing something a bit more special?

Zhang Lingyi hesitantly stretched out his hand and spread his fingers over a certain part of Wang Guangning. Before, he had only been partially hard.

Yet, upon being touched by Zhang Lingyi, Wang Guangning could feel himself hardening rapidly.

Zhang Lingyi felt stimulated as the outline of Wang Guangning's length swiftly stiffened under his palm. Wang Guangning blushed in response to his own quick reaction.

“*Shou shou*, are you particularly unable to endure your hunger and thirst?” Zhang Lingyi deliberately infuriated the other in order to lighten the tense atmosphere.

[2] : to be unable to endure any longer.

As expected, Wang Guangning was incited and his eyes burned with rage. The pressure of his hand on Zhang Lingyi's arousal also increased significantly. “You're the one who's incapable of lasting for long! *Laozi* has great endurance!”

“Really?” Zhang Lingyi glanced down. Even though he was unable to see the real thing since it was covered by the blanket, he was still able to feel it. They were both extremely clear on what the other possessed. “Then let's see who will last the longest.”

“Fine!” In a moment of ferocity, Wang Guangning clenched his hand tighter.

“*Shou shou*, don't mess around. That will still need to be used in the future.....” Zhang Lingyi paled.

Wang Guangning felt his heart sink and momentarily lost the mood for jokes.

When Zhang Lingyi said ‘in the future’, he meant his future with other people.

After tonight, they would never again have such an opportunity to be this intimate.....

The movement of his hand slowed. Neither of them were unfamiliar with the current proceedings. It was just that in the past, they were getting *themselves* off. Now, the target was different and everything seemed to have become almost...*miraculous*.

As he thought about the fact that the one grasping his hardened length right now was *him*, a kind of ineffable commotion arose in his heart.

Whatever words wanted to spill out of his mouth, he could only desperately try to restrain them.

It was as if Zhang Lingyi's palm carried electric pulses—everything he touched, intense shudders would be elicited.

Waves of indescribable pleasure crashed over their minds and then the room was flooded with the sounds of the two gasping for breath. It was like a turbulent tide had surged up and engulfed their bodies whole.

The two had both reached their climax at the same time; their hands still wet and sticky with each other's come. Laying on their backs, they stared up at the ceiling absently, their minds a total blank.

A good while later, Zhang Lingyi initiated hesitantly, "*Shou shou.....*" Following which, his voice trailed off, not knowing what else to say.

But it seemed that he needed to call out the other's name in order to feel slightly calmer.

The chaos and restlessness in Wang Guangning's heart was just a bit messier than Zhang Lingyi's. He knew that some of his feelings were already completely out of his control.

He had fallen in love with this man.

The realisation was terrifying, yet Wang Guangning had nowhere to escape from it.

That night, neither were able to sleep. The pair did not talk again; instead, they tossed and turned in the bed until it was nearly light, both caught up in

their own disordered state of minds.

“Zhang Lingyi, do you want to go and watch the sunrise now?” After an entire night of not having slept, Wang Guangning appeared quite haggard. His voice was also slightly hoarse.

Zhang Lingyi glanced outside the window, his mood quite complicated. “Since we’re already awake, then let’s go!”

The beach was extremely cold in the early morning, but the sand was exquisite. The sky was still pitch-black and the glow casted down from the streetlights on one side of the beach was soft.

The number of people who had come out to see the sunrise was not small and they were all speaking in low voices or whispering in another’s ear.

Only the two of them were silent as they sat down on the fine sand and gazed at where the sky merged with the vast sea.

The horizon gradually began to flush. One half of a fiery sphere slowly climbed up past the line where the heavens and ocean intersected, growing larger and larger.

Finally, the sun departed from the surface of the sea. Streaks of blinding light reflected across the entire blue stretch of the heavens and ocean, painting them all red.

Dawn had arrived.

This chapter is so beautiful, and yet, so sad ;; – ;;

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 032

032

“Burying a secret together—I like you”

*day twenty six|both write a secret and bury it underneath a tree then
arrange a time in the future to dig it up again*



The two took a couchette on their return journey. That way, they could avoid any lingering awkwardness or embarrassment during the trip.

The train rumbled away from Xiamen, and everything from the past two days became memories which would be forever remembered. From outside the window, the city could be vaguely seen. A light sea breeze filtered in, still carrying a damp flavour.

Nothing seemed to have changed; yet, at the same time, everything had changed.

The pair had stayed up all night and also engaged in a very strength consuming activity. Thus, it was no surprise that they were extremely tired; their restless and agitated minds had refused to calm. It was only now—while they were in an enclosed environment—that they slowly sank into their dreams.

Wang Guangning’s dreamscape was quite disordered. He was brought back to a faint memory of when he had just entered the university. Zhang Lingyi was standing under the sun while wearing camouflage clothing. Even though his image was unclear since he was too far away, Wang Guangning could still feel his imposing (and irritating) manner despite the distance.

Then the scene changed to the memory of the university entrance ceremony where he and Zhang Lingyi were the student representatives and had given speeches. They had encountered each other in the backstage area, and it was the first time they had ever been in such close range and made contact. Zhang Lingyi shot him a supercilious look.

.....

The scenes changed, again and again, all fragments of times when he had found Zhang Lingyi annoying or troublesome.

It was obvious from his memories that he and Zhang Lingyi were completely incompatible like fire and water; yet, why did his heart feel an indescribable sense of melancholy?



By the time they arrived back at the university, it was already dusk. The entire campus was void of people, and everywhere was empty. First, they both went back to their own dorms to have a rest and reorganise their things. Afterwards, Zhang Lingyi came and knocked on Wang Guangning's door.

Today could be considered the last day to their agreement of being gay, even though there were still four more objectives on the guide that they had not completed yet——*stand under the rain together, watch a concert together, take each other to see their family, and love each other for a lifetime.*

However, due to the fact that the difficulty of finishing these tasks was quite high, the two decided to end it here.

Even though there was slight reluctance on their part, no feast would last forever¹, just as how there were no agreements which would not eventually terminate.

[1] : means that ‘all good things must come to an end’.

Hence, the two decided to complete this final task and then both go back to their respective homes.

“*Shou shou*, let’s go!” After having rested for a day, Zhang Lingyi was now able to face Wang Guangning and act naturally. He had restored his previous mischievous manner and was now running towards Wang Guangning while waving a box in the air.

When Wang Guangning saw Zhang Lingyi’s unaffected appearance, the worry in his heart also dissipated. However, there was also a kind of indescribable disappointment.

Zhang Lingyi was willing to do *that sort of thing* with him, yet, Wang Guangning was still unclear about the other’s true thoughts.

The pair both took out a piece of paper and wrote a secret on it, then placed them into the box.

“*Haha*. Let’s go and bury it now. When we graduate, we can dig out the box and read them. I wonder what it will be like then!” Zhang Lingyi’s expression was brimming with anticipation.

Since it was a secret, Zhang Lingyi did not ask Wang Guangning about what exactly he wrote.

Wang Guangning only said that it was “quite embarrassing!”

Maybe it was something very emotional, or something that would inspire laughter.

The two men carried the box, along with a small shovel, and headed towards Moon Lake. After a quick discussion, that was the location where they had decided to bury the secrets in. Wang Guangning felt that Moon Lake’s environment was pretty good. The lake itself was surrounded by hills and trees, which made it a perfect place to bury things in.

Zhang Lingyi thought that Moon Lake and the activities they had done as part of their agreement were connected by fate; thus, they both happily

agreed on this location.

The pair circled around Moon Lake before they finally settled upon a fiddleleaf fig tree² which appeared to be drenched with history.

[2] : *Ficus pandurata* Hance (scientific name)

The reason why they chose this tree was that it was the only one of its kind near Moon Lake, so they wouldn't have to worry about not being able to find it again in the future.

“Let's bury it here,” Wang Guangning decided. Then he directed Zhang Lingyi to begin digging.

After around half an hour, the two finally managed to bury the box. They then proceeded to layer soil onto the top, before eventually announcing the task complete.

“We'll come and dig it out after our graduation.”

Zhang Lingyi's mood was somewhat complicated as he looked at where they had buried the box. He spoke, “At that time, we would probably have become very good friends!”

Was being very good friends the only thing they could be?

Wang Guangning smiled. “Aren't we already good friends?”

“It's not the same!” Zhang Lingyi slung his arm around Wang Guangning's shoulder and raised his eyebrow. “We're currently very good boyfriends!”

The corner of Wang Guangning's lips twisted, and an unsightly smile appeared on his face.

As it was winter vacation, the campus grounds were completely empty. Even most of the snacks bars surrounding the university were closed (the owners having gone home), with only one or two still insisting on opening.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi randomly chose some food to eat, then returned back to their dormitory.

“*Shou shou*, I’m going to leave tomorrow morning. What time will you leave?” Zhang Lingyi asked. Wang Guangning’s family lived in S city, which was around two hours from G city. Hence, it was unlikely that he would need to book any tickets in advance.

“I’m also returning home tomorrow. However, I’m leaving in the afternoon.” Wang Guangning replied.

Zhang Lingyi suddenly reached out and hugged him, holding Wang Guangning tightly in his arms. In a serious tone (which he hardly ever used), Zhang Lingyi said, “Have a pleasant journey.”

Wang Guangning stiffened and struggled to hold down his emotions, “You too.”

Zhang Lingyi then returned upstairs to pack his luggage. Wang Guangning leaned against the railing, staring blankly into space.

The sky was already dark, and a few stars could be vaguely seen.

The campus was blanketed in black, with only a few lights flickering in dormitories with people who had not left yet. From afar, they looked like lights hanging amidst the darkness.

The past month was just like a very long dream, and the one who had weaved in and out of it all was Zhang Lingyi.

When Wang Guangning chased Yu Haining, he had thought it was love. It was only now that he understood it hadn’t been. After all, he didn’t think of Yu Haining incessantly; and when he thought of her, he didn’t feel this warm and happy. Nor did he feel that sense of disconsolation within that happiness. When he thought of her, his stomach didn’t swell up and he wouldn’t feel this uncontrollable sense of heartache.

He had never known that liking a person could be such torment to one's will.

Zhang Lingyi, what about you?

Are you like me—still silently trying to guess each other's true thoughts?

Or have you already lost interest?

Wang Guangning shook his head, attempting to extricate himself from his disordered state of mind.

He then returned to his dorm. Other than his backpack which had been previously thrown on the ground, it was completely empty. Wang Dafa, who had been left in the dormitory by himself for the past two days, was situated on Wang Guangning's table. Despite that, he was verdant in colour and growing happily.

Seeing the plant caused Wang Guangning to remember how he and Zhang Lingyi had argued about Wang Dafa's surname. He shook his head helplessly.

Opening his closet, Wang Guangning began to pack the luggage he would take on his journey home. He didn't have many clothes, so it wasn't difficult to sort them out. That is, until he found the couple's clothes set he had bought with Zhang Lingyi as well as the SpongeBob pyjamas the other had given him.

The memory of them shopping together was still vivid in his mind. Wang Guangning realised later that Zhang Lingyi had probably discovered his appreciation for SpongeBob during this outing.

Afterwards, Zhang Lingyi had also sent him the SpongeBob pyjamas. However, Wang Guangning had not known what Zhang Lingyi liked.

As he considered the time they had spent together for the past few weeks, Wang Guangning noticed that it was always Zhang Lingyi who had been

dragging him around. Wang Guangning had simply cooperated since there was no other choice.

Yet, in the end, he was the one who had fallen first.

It didn't matter anymore though, since everything had already passed.

Wang Guangning smiled bitterly as he closed the suitcase and ran to take a shower. Since it was currently winter vacation, there was not much hot water provided and the temperature of the water was not high either. Wang Guangning was shivering as he showered. When he finished, he sprinted to his bed and jumped underneath the covers.

It took quite a while until he felt warm again. It was at this moment, that Wang Guangning's phone vibrated. It was a call from the counsellor, so he accepted.

"Guangning, the procedures for the Taiwan exchange has been completed. You'll be directly going over there next term." The counsellor's voice was light and tinged with joy. After all, the opportunity for an exchange was quite rare. He was proud that someone under his administration was able to grasp this chance.

"*En*, alright. Thank you, teacher." Wang Guangning's mood was not that great, and his reply was somewhat perfunctory.

"Okay. I just wanted to advise you to prepare everything that you'll need during these holidays....." The counsellor talked for a while more, explaining a few things to him. Finally, he said, "Well, that's about it. Have a good night!"

Wang Guangning hung up, but he still hadn't recovered from his previous thoughts.

As he stared at his phone which displayed Zhang Lingyi's exaggerated smile, Wang Guangning was reminded of the time when they had set up a password for each other's cell.

If he went on the Taiwan exchange, he wouldn't be able to see Zhang Lingyi for a year!

Wang Guangning's thoughts unconsciously drifted away.

Sharing a drink with Zhang Lingyi, watching a movie together, cooking together, playing games together, riding a bicycle together, brushing their teeth together.....

They had kissed in an unfamiliar street, and comforted each other under the cover of darkness.

They had been heavily drunk together, and stayed together for a night.

All of his memories were filled with Zhang Lingyi, and Wang Guangning was unable to escape them.

This game which had masqueraded as an agreement was now finished; yet, his feelings were like a train which had tumbled out of control, incapable of turning back around.

Who ought to be blamed?

Who could be blamed?

Wang Guangning suddenly realised that these feelings would not disappear with the termination of the agreement.

Instead, they had already expanded rapidly out of his control in such a short amount of time.

It was to the point that he would be unable to restrain them for any longer.

Zhang Lingyi, what about you?

Will you be like me? Remembering all of the shared memories we had together?

Will you also reminisce the happiness we had created together?

Will you also regret that we had so easily ended it all?

Will you also wish.....that this game could become real?

Wang Guangning felt an abrupt sense of suffocation.

It was like his entire heart had been twisted and wrenched apart.

Should he tell him?

Wang Guangning recalled that night in Xiamen, the sound of them both panting for breath

Perhaps, Zhang Lingyi also felt something for him!

But if he didn't...then they probably wouldn't even be able to be friends anymore!

Yet, even if he didn't say anything, Wang Guangning wasn't certain that he could continue being friends with Zhang Lingyi as if anything had happened.

.....

After thinking it through, again and again, Wang Guangning was still unable to decide.

The only thought which was becoming more and more clear was that——
he didn't want to leave Zhang Lingyi.

Wang Guangning was tormented by these two different choices until the first glimmer of light appeared outside. It was at this moment, that his phone jolted again. Unexpectedly, it was a message from Zhang Lingyi.

Shou shou, you're probably still sleeping right now, right? I'm on my way home, but I'll see you next term. Have a good journey!

PS. Although the time I spent with you was short, it was filled with happiness!

Wang Guangning's spirit rose, and the problem that had troubled him for the whole night was finally solved.

Tell him!

Tell him that I like him!

Prepare tissues (boxes of them) for the next chapter 😊

translator: k i a i

OceanofPDF.com

ABG30D; 033

033

“Standing in the rain together”

day twenty seven|stand together in the rain



Wang Guangning suddenly leapt out of bed and prepared to go and find Zhang Lingyi; however, his phone vibrated again. It was a text from the counsellor:

Guangning, there are still a few more documents that you need to confirm. Send your home address to me so I can mail them to you.

Wang Guangning glanced at the message, then his fingers flew and he responded:

Teacher, I apologise, but I won't be going to Taiwan anymore.

Then he jumped off his bed and sprinted out of the dorm.

Outside, the sky was overcast and fine drops of rain sprinkled down. The clouds were growing heavier and heavier, as if a fierce storm was currently brewing.

Wang Guangning ignored the weather conditions and ran in one breath to Zhang Lingyi's dorm which was on the sixth floor. The door was closed, so he knocked on it loudly while shouting, "Zhang Lingyi, open the door! Zhang Lingyi, quickly open the door!"

There didn't seem to be any movement within the dorm. Zhang Lingyi had most likely already left.

Wang Guangning promptly dialled his number and called him.

Zhang Lingyi immediately picked up. "Guangning, what's the matter?"

"I have something to tell you. Where are you?"

"I just came downstairs, what's wrong—"

Before Zhang Lingyi could finish speaking, Wang Guangning interrupted him. "Don't move, I'll come and find you."

Wang Guangning hung up then flew down the stairs.

The sky darkened further and the rain pounded down harder. The world seemed to be enveloped in a blanket of fog.

Wang Guangning had not brought an umbrella since his mind had been entirely filled with thoughts of Zhang Lingyi. He was so preoccupied with the chaos in his heart that he was unable to pay attention to anything else.

By the time Wang Guangning arrived on the ground floor, the rain was already extremely heavy. However, Wang Guangning didn't care about that and rushed into the downpour.

Zhang Lingyi, I want to tell you that I like you!

Zhang Lingyi, I want to tell you that I don't want things to end like this between us. To me, this isn't just a game!

What about you? How will you answer me?

From afar, Wang Guangning caught sight of Zhang Lingyi's figure. The other man was standing in the rain, an umbrella raised above him as he held onto his suitcase. Zhang Lingyi's posture was straight and he held himself with a charming grace. Despite the flood of rain, Zhang Lingyi's imposing and lofty manner was not diminished in the least.

This was Zhang Lingyi's true disposition—svelte and handsome, with an all-consuming aura of grandeur. It was as if Zhang Lingyi was an entirely different person to the one who would shamelessly seek forgiveness from Wang Guangning or wear that mischievous smile while joking around with him.

Wang Guangning's heart sank slightly, but his feet did not stop moving.

It was only when he had arrived in front of Zhang Lingyi that Wang Guangning's heart tightened.

Unexpectedly, Luo Zihui was standing next to Zhang Lingyi.

Before, Wang Guangning was quite far away so he didn't notice Luo Zihui since she was blocked by Zhang Lingyi's figure. Now, he could see her very clearly.

She was holding onto Zhang Lingyi's arm.

Wang Guangning was suddenly hit by the feeling that maybe, from the very beginning, this entire matter was not what he had thought it was.

Upon seeing Wang Guangning running over with his body half-drenched, Zhang Lingyi frowned. He couldn't give his umbrella to the other man, since Luo Zihui would be caught by the rain if he moved it away. Hence, he spoke in a displeased tone, "Guangning, how can you forget to bring an umbrella with you?"

Wang Guangning didn't answer him, his line of sight still pinned to Luo Zihui's hand around Zhang Lingyi's arm. He said hesitantly, "Zhang Lingyi, you two....."

Naturally, the 'you two' was directed towards him and Luo Zihui.

Zhang Lingyi followed Wang Guangning's gaze. The expression on his face was slightly odd. Then he laughed, "Oh, right. I forgot to tell you; I'm dating Zihui."

“Is that so?” There was a distinct sense of premonition in his heart. Wang Guangning didn’t lose his self-control right then and there, but his eyes turned empty and even his speech was incomplete. “When.....when did this happen?”

“Just a few days ago,” responded Luo Zihui in a natural and relaxed manner. She smiled sweetly. “However, Lingyi was busy in the last couple of days so we didn’t have time to make it public. He just went travelling two days ago, and I happened to have some matters that needed resolving first. That’s why we’ve dragged it on until now. He’s sending me off now.”

It turned out this was the result of the three days consideration Luo Zihui had given Zhang Lingyi. On one hand, Zhang Lingyi hadn’t wanted to miss out on a girl who might be most compatible with him. On the other, he realised that his thoughts were developing and heading towards an abnormal direction.

In order to sever these improper thoughts, Zhang Lingyi decided to accept Luo Zihui’s proposition.

Since it had been near the end of term, they were both busy with their own affairs so they didn’t have the chance to make their relationship public.

Or, it could be said that in Zhang Lingyi’s case, he didn’t want to make it public so early.

After all, Zhang Lingyi lived in this city. If he wanted to return home, he didn’t need to leave so soon. The reason why he had decided to depart now was so he could send off Luo Zihui.

It was only now that Wang Guangning realised he was the only one who had been so absorbed in their agreement.

From beginning to end, Zhang Lingyi had played the role of a conscientious gamer.

From the amount of effort and energy he had invested, it was easy to assume that Zhang Lingyi had fallen in deep.

However, as soon as the game ended, he calmly pulled out and smiled while saying goodbye.

He had even prepared a retreat path.

“Zhang Lingyi was together with you for the past few days, right? I didn’t expect that you two would have become such good friends.....” Luo Zihui was still speaking.

Yet, Wang Guangning was unable to glean anything she said.

He could only hear the loud pelting of rain as it smashed the ground, and the echoing sounds of ridiculing laughter that seemed to surge up violently from around him.

It was only when Zhang Lingyi patted his shoulder, that Wang Guangning recovered his thoughts. He stared at Zhang Lingyi, his face pale.

The rain was so heavy now that drops of it fell into his eyes before flowing out again, leaving him barely capable of keeping them open.

Zhang Lingyi’s face was blurred, yet it appeared so clearly in his heart.

“Didn’t you say you needed to tell me something? What is it?” Zhang Lingyi felt extremely anxious as he watched Wang Guangning standing in the rain. He wanted to just pull the other man under the umbrella as well.

Wang Guangning struggled to open his eyes, then revealed a natural and charming smile bordering on perfection. He grinned, “Nothing. I saw that it was raining when I woke up, and thought of how we still haven’t completed one task yet. This is a good chance to make up for it.”

Luo Zihui was present, so Wang Guangning didn’t explicitly state what exactly the task was. However, Zhang Lingui understood immediately.

Stand together in the rain.

He laughed. “It’s already so late, and you’re mentioning it now?”

“Of course!” Wang Guangning replied, “It’s already too late.” He gave a self-deprecating smile then said, “Well, I don’t have much else to say. I won’t stall you both any longer!”

As soon as he finished speaking, Wang Guangning turned around and walked away.

“What kind of riddles are you two speaking?” Luo Zihui glanced at Wang Guangning’s back in confusion.

“Don’t worry about it.” Zhang Lingyi told her, abruptly pacing the umbrella into Luo Zihui’s grasp. “Give me a minute.”

Then he ran into the rain.

“Guangning.” Zhang Lingyi caught up to Wang Guangning, and tugged at the other’s arm.

Wang Guangning stiffened, then moved to face him. He was completely soaked, and cut a sorry figure.

“What is it?” Wang Guangning frowned as the droplets of rain splashed over Zhang Lingyi.

“Didn’t you say ‘stand together in the rain’? Well, in any case, I’ll stand underneath it for a while.” Zhang Lingyi chuckled, his body already half-wet.

Wang Guangning gave him a light punch and feigned a casual attitude. “Forget it.”

“Alright, then, I’m going to go now.” Zhang Lingyi hesitated for a moment, then finally turned and walked away.

Wang Guangning stared after him in a daze. Then he tilted his face upwards.

Fortunately, it was raining so Zhang Lingyi wouldn’t be able to see his tears.

Zhang Lingyi arrived back at Luo Zihui's side. She moved the umbrella over to cover him, then took out a paper towel and wiped his face. With an expression of disapproval, she said, "How can you just suddenly run into the rain for no reason?"

Zhang Lingyi only smiled, and didn't reply. He stared at Wang Guangning's figure in the distance, immobile. A tear suddenly escaped the corner of his eye.

Fortunately, Luo Zihui didn't notice.

He didn't know why he suddenly remembered a line from *The Love of Siam*. Although he had fallen asleep while watching it with Wang Guangning, he had later viewed the film again in his own time. He couldn't remember much of the movie, but there was a sentence which was etched clearly in his mind at this moment——

Although I can't be your boyfriend, it doesn't mean I do not love you.



When Wang Guangning returned back to his dormitory, he felt as if his entire person had been hollowed out. He refused to change his clothes and just sat blankly on a chair.

He was unable to think of anything, and could only stare expressionlessly at his partly cleaned desk (which was usually very messy).

On the surface of the table was Wang Dafa and a small bottle of white vinegar.

The white vinegar had been previously given to him by Zhang Lingyi when they needed to complete day twenty's task—eating vinegar¹ for the other person.

[1] : means 'to feel jealous'.

Wang Guangning unconsciously blinked, tears trickling down his face. He wasn't really aware of it when he picked up the bottle of white vinegar, opened it, then threw his head back and gulped the liquid down.

“Kekeke.....” The heartbreaking sound of his coughs resounded in the empty room.

Wang Guangning's face was completely flushed as he choked. He pounded at his chest, trying to stop the incessant coughs.

The strong bitter and sour taste invaded all of his senses, irritating his gut and stomach.

His throat felt as if it was burning, and his head was struck violently by vertigo. Tears continued to pour down.

Wang Guangning squatted on the ground, and it took quite a while before he finally managed to recover.

“Kekeke.....” The sounds of his coughs softened, mingling with a few indistinct sobs. Wang Guangning threw away the bottle of vinegar, then tilted his head up and leaned against his closet.

At this moment, everything had ended.

He didn't know how long after it was when his phone vibrated. It was the counsellor calling him.

The counsellor's anxious tone could be clearly heard as Wang Guangning accepted the call, “Guangning, what did you mean by that text? You don't want to go to Taiwan anymore?”

Wang Guangning's voice was hoarse. It took a while until it became normal again. “I apologise, teacher. I accidentally sent you the wrong message.”

“Wrong?” The counsellor's voice relaxed. “So you're still going to Taiwan then?”

“En.” Wang Guangning replied. “Teacher, I’d like to go a bit earlier and familiarise myself with the environment first.”

“Okay, sure.” The counsellor was excited. As long as Wang Guangning followed the original plan and went to Taiwan, then everything else could be easily discussed. “When would you like to go?”

“The sooner, the better.”

Hanging up the call, Wang Guangning looked at his phone. The wallpaper was still Zhang Lingyi’s photo, and his password was still Zhang Lingyi’s birthday.

Wang Guangning considered for a moment, then changed his wallpaper back to the original picture and chose a new password.

Since it had ended, then everything should just go back to how it was originally.

No matter how many times I read this chapter, it still hurts (π π)

I should be revising for my SAT tomorrow, but I didn’t want to leave you all waiting on that cliffhanger. The next update should be in about a week or maybe a bit more, since I have several other SATS/SACS that I need to study for (∩ ∟,)

waves my box of tissues Anyone need one?

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 034

034

“Actually, I went to the planet Hakuna Matata and inherited the throne!”



Keke, it is said that time passes quickly like flowing water. In a blink, four years had passed!

On a sunny afternoon outside G city’s airport departure terminal.

A slightly plump man with a cheerful smile on his baby face was leaning against a second-hand Volkswagen. He was anxiously staring at the departure terminal.

After a long time, a tall figure who was dressed in casual clothes and dragging a suitcase behind him leisurely walked out.

He was extremely handsome, with elegant and finely carved features. He strolled over to the exit gates, his every movement radiating an imposing and lofty aura that made people unable to tear their eyes away.

The young man with the baby face caught sight of him and immediately shouted, “Wang Guangning,” then dashed over.

Wang Guangning grinned as he collided with Sun Siyang who had flown towards him.

“Long time no see,” Wang Guangning said. His voice no longer carried the inexperience of youth; instead, it had become low and deep, full of

magnetic charm.

“Long time no see, my ass!” Sun Siyang’s face was red as he panted with rage. He delivered a swift punch to Wang Guangning’s gut. “You *bastard!* You actually ran all the way to Taiwan, and no one saw a hint of your shadow for *four years*. You didn’t even call, and if it wasn’t because I occasionally saw you appearing online in QQ¹, I would have thought that you were kidnapped by aliens!”

[1] QQ: an instant messaging software service provider in China.

“*Haha~* I really was kidnapped by aliens~” Wang Guangning laughed and raised his eyebrow as he draped himself over Sun Siyang’s shoulder. “I’m only telling you this because it’s *you*. You must keep this a secret; in truth, I am planet Hakuna Matata’s prince. Originally, a war had broken out so my mother sent me to Earth. The war was settled a few years ago and I was taken back to inherit the throne!”

“.....” Sun Siyang stared at Wang Guangning, dumbfounded. “Then should I send you to an extra-terrestrial research centre now?”

Wang Guangning shrugged. “No, you mustn’t. Since I’m from a foreign planet, I like keeping a low-profile. You only need to take me out for a meal.”

Sun Siyang rolled his eyes and intercepted Wang Guangning’s suitcase. He placed it into the trunk of the Volkswagen. “Get on.”

“Oh~ You bought this yourself? You must be doing quite well!” Wang Guangning lifted a brow and slid into the front passenger seat. Although this vehicle wasn’t that expensive, it was pretty good for someone who had only graduated three years ago to already own a means of transport in G city.

“Well, it’s not much compared to you.” Sun Siyang snorted. “You’re now the marketing director of Fumaokaisi².....Oh, you’re also the king of an alien planet! Hmph. If it wasn’t because I was the first person you contacted

when you came back, I would be suspecting whether you looked down on your past dormmate and wanted to break our friendship!”

[2] : (good fortune; happiness; luck) (luxuriant)
(triumphant; victorious) (to think; consider)

“Don’t say that~ Even though I’m already a glaringly³ successful person, I would never forget you, my dormmate, who ate in the cafeteria together with me!” Wang Guangning winked.

[3] : literally translates to ‘golden light’ and ‘glittering’. WGN is teasing SSY xD

He completely understood Sun Siyang’s anger. After all, anyone would be hostile if their friend ran off to another place for four years without a word, and basically didn’t initiate any contact during that period.

In this regard, Sun Siyang’s temper could already be considered quite good.

However, something like this was simply unable to be explained clearly. Wang Guangning could only deliberately laugh and divert Sun Siyang’s fury.

“Fuck off!” Sun Siyang roared. “Tell me the truth, at that time, why did you run away without saying anything? Afterwards, you didn’t get in touch with us either. If it wasn’t for the fact that your company assigned you to come to the mainland, were you planning not to return for the rest of your life?”

That’s right, ‘we’. Four years ago, when Wang Guangning suddenly left to Taiwan during the winter vacation, he didn’t bid goodbye to anyone at all. Later, it was as if he had completely disappeared from the sights of everyone in F University. His phone number changed, and he didn’t reply to any emails. He was also hardly on QQ. Wang Guangning didn’t leave any new contact information at the university either; even his parents were tight-lipped about it all.

If it wasn’t for the fact that vestiges of them living in a dorm together remained, Sun Siyang would have really doubted whether he’d ever truly

met such a person before.

The reason why he didn't fall out with Wang Guangning was that the other man had disconnected himself from everyone, not just him.

Hence, Sun Siyang had always felt that the reason for Wang Guangning's actions must have been because he had no other alternative.

Sun Siyang persisted in sending Wang Guangning messages on QQ until he finally received several replies back. They proved that the other man was well, and that he didn't encounter any danger.

However, Wang Guangning was still unforthcoming with the reason for his departure.

Originally, Sun Siyang had thought the exchange would only last for one year and a half. It was entirely unexpected that Wang Guangning would directly stay and work in Taiwan after his graduation. Even though Wang Guangning worked at Taiwan's famous corporation Fumaokaisi, it would still be extremely easy for him to acquire a position in a large company on mainland China considering his abilities.

Sun Siyang never understood Wang Guangning's decision.

Fortunately, he was back now.

They hadn't seen each other for four years; yet, Wang Guangning's elegance and attractiveness had not dimmed at all. Instead, the man's charisma had matured by a fair bit and his visage had become more and more enthralling.

Sun Siyang had also found a stable job, and his life was pretty good.

Upon seeing Wang Guangning again, he couldn't help but think of those years back at F University. Those days with Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi was said to be F University's most lively and glorious period.

After Wang Guangning had left, Zhang Lingyi also became silent; up until graduation, F University didn't encounter any more scenes of the two

arguing at the same time again.

Sun Siyang sighed.

“Don’t worry about it, nothing really happened,” said Wang Guangning.
“It’s just that my classes were very hectic after I went to Taiwan. Every day, I basically didn’t have any time to rest from the moment my eyes opened in the morning until halfway into the night. It was like this even after I started working.....”

Wang Guangning wasn’t lying when he said this. Four years ago, he had literally fled to Taiwan. He had changed all of his contact information and broke off every link to those in F University. It was simply because he didn’t want to hear any more news about Zhang Lingyi.

In order to make himself apathetic, Wang Guangning dived into his studies and ended up graduating with having excelled in all of his courses.

However, both he and Sun Siyang knew that this didn’t justify why he had cut off all contact.

Although Sun Siyang really wanted to know the true reason, he didn’t expose Wang Guangning’s poor excuse. He understood Wang Guangning extremely well; since the other man had already said it like this, it meant that he didn’t want to explain further.

Hence, they discontinued from talking about this topic.

Sun Siyang opened his mouth again, “That’s right! Guangning, do you still remember Zhang Lingyi?” Zhang Lingyi was Wang Guangning’s biggest opponent at F University, so Sun Siyang believed that Wang Guangning would definitely be interested.

Wang Guangning stiffened. Pretending as if he couldn’t care less, he replied, “Of course, I remember. Why?”

“A while after you left to Taiwan, he publicly announced his relationship with Luo Zihui and it immediately caused a sensation.” The *xiao cao* and

the goddess of the administration faculty were both influential figures; therefore, this information incited a spell of gossip.

Despite the fact that he already knew this, Wang Guangning's heart still unconsciously twitched in pain when he heard it again.

Sun Siyang didn't notice his abnormality and continued to gossip. "But they quickly broke up, not even a month later." Sun Siyang had lived in the same dormitory with Wang Guangning for three years, and he had accumulated quite a lot of negative comments about Zhang Lingyi. Hence, he didn't feel any pressure at all about trampling on Zhang Lingyi now.

"They broke up? Why?" Wang Guangning's tone was somewhat strange. He knew that Zhang Lingyi didn't just date people randomly; the other man would only get into a relationship with another person after careful deliberation. This was also the reason why Wang Guangning had left without hesitation—he believed that Zhang Lingyi was serious about Luo Zihui. Since that was so, then why did they break up so quickly?

"Who knows?" Sun Siyang continued to break through his lower limit, "Wahaha. That's why they say public displays of affection only leads to faster break-ups!"

Wang Guangning fell silent.

"Oh, however, he's really awesome nowadays." Sun Siyang remarked in disapproval, "He's currently the HR manager of Huidi⁴ International's southern China branch, and he's very successful in the industry." As he said this, Sun Siyang swept a glance over Wang Guangning. "Fortunately, you're not doing any worse than him."

[4] : (splendour; to shine upon), (stem(of a fruit))

Immediately after thinking this, Sun Siyang's eyes brightened. To tell the truth, his days at work have been extremely boring; thus, he really looked forward to seeing Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi's grievances from the past transfer to their careers!

Wahaha. Classmates, we will have more gossip at our next alumni gathering!

Wang Guangning chuckled lightly, but didn't say anything.

In the past four years, he hadn't paid any attention to news regarding Zhang Lingyi. However, based on his understanding of the other man, Wang Guangning knew that his achievements wouldn't be low.

Huidi International.....they could be considered as being part of the same industry.

Sun Siyang drove Wang Guangning to his hotel and they dropped off his luggage. They shared a meal together, then Sun Siyang left.

Wang Guangning returned to his suite. Standing on the balcony, he gazed out at the landscape. Skyscrapers still dominated G city; it was as if nothing had changed, and yet, at the same time, it felt as if everything had changed.

Zhang Lingyi should be somewhere in this large city.

At that moment, the memories which he had repressed for so long could no longer be controlled and they surged up in waves.

Wang Guangning inhaled deeply, then revealed a bitter smile.

Even though I've left for so long, it turns out that my longing for you has not lessened in the least.

The sound of Wang Guangning's phone rang out from inside the room. Walking back in, he picked it up and glanced at the number. It was unfamiliar.

"En," he answered. "Wang Guangning speaking, may I ask who you are?"

A woman replied in a sweet voice, "Hello, Mr Wang. I am Kelly, an executive recruiter from the HR sector of Kaite, a consulting business. Is it convenient for you to speak right now?"

Wang Guangning casually seated himself in a chair. “Please, go ahead.”

Silvery laughter echoed through the phone. “I know that Fumaokaisi has just recently stationed Mr Wang on the mainland. I was wondering if you would be interested in considering a few of the job opportunities available here?”

Wang Guangning responded, “I grew up in S city, so I do intend to develop on the mainland in the long-term. Please, do detail any good job opportunities there are currently.”

“That’s great.” Kelly’s voice transmitted her excitement clearly. “We are currently seeking a marketing director on behalf of Huidi International’s southern China branch. They will directly report to the National Marketing Director. Would you like to consider it?”

Huidi International?

Wang Guangning’s heart jumped, and he smiled. “Sure, I am quite interested in Huidi. How about this, you send the job description to me and I will email you my resume.”

“Okay, I’ll forward the JD to you now. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at any time,” said Kelly.

Wang Guangning turned on his mobile phone. As expected, he had quickly received Kelly’s email. He scanned through it, then sent his resume to her.

The past four years have felt endless. It has been long enough that I have finally sorted out my emotions and can now face you with a smile.

All SATS/SACS are finally done (´ `) *:

I’ve left the name of the companies in *pingyin*, but feel free to post English suggestions for it ~

Also, I was wondering, what would you all rather for mature scenes in future chapters—mellow or explicit descriptions/expressions?

Zhang Lingyi and Wang Guangning will meet again in the next chapter ~

translator: k i a i

OceanofPDF.com

ABG30D; 035

035

**“Wang Guangning lifted his head then immediately froze—it was
Zhang Lingyi”**



Somewhere in B city, an eye-catching pair was sitting beside a window at a high-class western restaurant; the presence of the handsome man and beautiful woman caused feelings of envy and hatred to momentarily rise up in other diners.

The man looked like a celebrity with his tall height and attractive features. The faint smile curled around his lips could cause girls to scream incessantly. He was impeccably attired in a suit that highlighted his extraordinary aura, like the male lead from a Korean drama.

The woman in front of him had a bewitching and moving appearance. Her lips were a fiery red, and she wore an evening gown that exposed half of her soft and silky chest. It seemed as if something was going to happen between her and the man opposite at any time.

“Manager Zhang, how long will you stay in B city for your business trip this time?” The woman with the rosy lips gently sipped her red wine. Her lashes fluttered coquettishly, and there was a hint of ambiguity in her elegant manner.

Zhang Lingyi lowered his head and avoided Liu Subai’s amorous glance. He slowly pierced a piece of steak and then smiled lightly. “I’m returning this weekend.”

A trace of disappointment flashed across Liu Subai's eyes. She chuckled, "Then, I wonder if Manager Zhang needs a guide for the next two days?"

Zhang Lingyi swallowed his piece of steak then proceeded to cut another one. He still didn't lift his gaze. "I'll be quite busy with work for those two days, so I'm afraid that I'll have no time to go sightseeing."

"Ah, that really is a pity——" Liu Subai could feel Zhang Lingyi's alienation. However, a wealthy and handsome man like Zhang Lingyi was very rare so she wouldn't give up easily. Laughing quietly, she said, "Manager Zhang is young and promising; it's unknown just how many girls would be charmed if you were to take a stroll through B city.....Speaking of that, Zhang Lingyi, you had a girlfriend once when you were in university, right?"

In order to have more topics in common with Zhang Lingyi to talk about, Liu Subai had already inquired about the man's history beforehand. Zhang Lingyi's dating record couldn't help but be mentioned; after all, it was too pure and clean in comparison to his excellent personal background. Apparently, Zhang Lingyi had only one girlfriend in the past twenty years. She was his university classmate. Their story sounded especially innocent, and it was said that after he broke up with his girlfriend, he had not been in a relationship since. Many people also explicitly stated that Zhang Lingyi was not easily tempted and was unmoved even in the face of beautiful women. Hence, they described him as faithful and upright. That resulted in the rumour that Zhang Lingyi was unable to extricate himself from the deep feelings he held for his ex-girlfriend and was instead resolutely waiting for her. After a long time, the women around Zhang Lingyi began to voluntarily give up in their pursuits.

However, Liu Subai lived in B city which was far away, and she understood Zhang Lingyi's situation very clearly. She didn't treat this matter too seriously though; Zhang Lingyi was already in front of her, so it was impossible for her to let him go so easily.

"Girlfriend.....en, I did." Zhang Lingyi thought about Luo Zihui then sighed softly. "My ex-girlfriend was very beautiful!"

“Oh, then.....” Liu Subai looked at him meaningfully, “Why did you two break up?”

“Ah, she was too outstanding. I didn’t deserve her.” Zhang Lingyi generously gave Luo Zihui the ‘good guy’ card.

Although Luo Zihui was the one who took the initiative to break-up, it was ultimately his fault.

Liu Subai coughed lightly. Her pale hand covered her mouth as she spoke, “Manager Zhang is really humorous!”

Zhang Lingyi stared at Liu Subai silently. He didn’t understand why she thought what he said was humorous, so he just let the corner of his lips to curve up while he kept quiet.

Unwilling to give up, Liu Subai asked, “Then, I wonder what kind of person Manager Zhang likes?”

“Ah, this~” Zhang Lingyi was feeling a little impatient now, but he still thought about it for a while with grace. “Someone who is good-looking, intelligent, likes exercising, has a bit of a temper, but is still broadminded and tolerant.”

“Manager Zhang’s taste is very particular!” Liu Subai gently raised her eyebrows. “A woman like this should be quite rare.....”

He didn’t care whether a woman like this was rare or not.

However, he once had such a person in his life.

Only, that person was a man.

Zhang Lingyi’s mood suddenly fell.

“Manager Zhang, why don’t you try out a different type?” Liu Subai lifted a brow as she shot him a suggestive look. Underneath the table, she touched Zhang Lingyi’s calf lightly with a high-heel encased foot.

“Because I like an uninhibited and unrestrained life, and I am fond of my freedom!” Zhang Lingyi expressionlessly withdrew his leg. He was already fed up with these social niceties.

Liu Subai was a client, so he had originally thought that they were going to discuss business. In the end, it was just another ploy¹ to secure a dinner date.

[1] : lit. to hang a sheep’s head while selling dog meat (idiom); fig. to cheat; dishonest advertising; wicked deeds carried out under banner of virtue.

This really did cause one to feel like they would never love again.

Zhang Lingyi called over the waiter and paid the bill. Immediately afterward, he said, “Miss Liu, the truth is that I already have a partner. However, they² are in Taiwan and I’m waiting for them to come back.”

[2] : (tā) ZLY uses the male pronoun, ‘he’; but in Chinese, she and he are pronounced the same despite being different characters. (‘she’, female pronoun:

Liu Subai was stunned speechless by Zhang Lingyi’s straightforwardness.

In order to give Zhang Lingyi the chance to take initiative and deliver himself to her, Liu Subai had deliberately not driven her car to the restaurant. Yet, Zhang Lingyi obviously did not want this ‘opportunity’. He flagged down a taxi for her, then waved her goodbye.

“That person is blessed to be able to have Manager Zhang’s favour.” Liu Subai’s tone was sour when she slid into the vehicle.

Zhang Lingyi only discarded the mask of interest that he’d worn after watching the taxi disappear into the distance. He sighed quietly, then slowly walked back.

The hotel where he was staying at was not far from the restaurant, so he could just use this as an exercise.

The air in B city was known for being notoriously poor across the country. This was especially prominent during times where there was no sunshine, and everything seemed overcast.

Zhang Lingyi peered at the high-rise buildings, they were like a stone forest.

His mood became even gloomier than before.

In the past four years, there were many women who tried to get close to him. In the beginning, he was still able to politely reject them. However, now he was becoming more and more impatient.

Maybe it was because his longing for *that person* grew with each passing day, causing him to be unable to hide it any longer.

Four years ago, he had thought that everything would end as per their agreement. Yet, it had resulted in creating an entire set of chaotic feelings.

He knew perfectly well that it was wrong. The enormous chasm between the difference in sex was extremely obvious. No one could change anything.

But those feelings had only intensified, rapidly swelling inside the enormity of space-time.

In the beginning, he could still bitterly suppress them. It was up until the day when he could no longer restrain his feelings that he found out the one who had kindled them had suddenly left.

It was only then he realised that perhaps to Wang Guangning, he wasn't even considered a friend.

Otherwise, why would he have left and disappeared to that extent?

The phone in his pocket vibrated, and Zhang Lingyi pulled it out. It was still the same phone as four years prior, and the wallpaper that flashed across his screen was Wang Guangning's photo. The other man had purposely tried to look cold and serious, but Zhang Lingyi saw through this

expression and recognised Wang Guangning's proud nature, his smile, and his slight temper.

Sometimes, when he stared at this photo, he would unconsciously start grinning. Yet, there was also a touch of sadness in the curl of his lips.

This kind of emotion had never been punctuated throughout the four years.

“*En.*” Zhang Lingyi accepted the call. “Zihui, what’s the matter?”

“What, I can’t phone you if there’s nothing happening?” Luo Zihui felt slightly out of sorts. Even if she disregarded the fact that they had dated for a short period of time and focused solely on their camaraderie forged over the years as classmates, Zhang Lingyi’s detached tone still made her want to throttle him.

“Well, you already know that I’m currently a successful figure who generates millions per minute.....” Zhang Lingyi feigned nonchalance.

“Get lost!” In any case, her past relationship with Zhang Lingyi hadn’t developed, so Luo Zihui couldn’t be bothered pretending to be a wise and virtuous woman in front of him. “The fact that this lady³ is calling you shows that I think highly of you, but don’t get cocky!”

[3] :(běn xiǎo jie); another method of referring to oneself, ‘I’. Similar to how ZLY or WGN would refer to themselves as ‘ ’, ‘this young master’.

“Alright, then what commands does Miss⁴ Luo have?”

[4] : here, ZLY is teasing LZH as this way of referring to a woman can imply that she is bossy or indulged.

“Hmph~” Ever since their break-up, Luo Zihui didn’t have much patience when talking to him. She was also disinclined to waste time conversing any further, and said bluntly, “Next month is the anniversary of our university’s founding. Our fellow ex-classmates are taking the opportunity to gather and treat it as a class reunion. Don’t forget to come.”

“Okay.” Zhang Lingyi replied in the same frank manner.

The two spoke for a bit longer about their recent developments, then prepared to hang up.

“Oh, right. Lingyi.....” Luo Zihui seemed to have just recalled something. Her tone was slightly apprehensive, and she hesitated for a moment before cautiously asking, “Are you still.....waiting for him?”

“.....” The smile on Zhang Lingyi’s face dropped. A long pause later, he slowly said, “Zihui, I’m the one who has let you down⁵ in this matter, I apologise.”

[5] : many variations on how to express this, but it basically conveys a sense of guilt from the speaker (generally if they have done something that has no remedy or if they have treated another person very badly).

“Don’t worry about it. After all, it’s already been so long,” Luo Zihui responded impatiently. Whatever heartbreak she had felt all those years ago, it was healed now. However, Zhang Lingyi didn’t seem to have improved despite the passing of time. Instead, he seemed to have become increasingly serious.

Regarding the matter between him and Wang Guangning, Luo Zihui only vaguely understood it. She didn’t know about the specific details of the situation. What she found more difficult to comprehend was why Zhang Lingyi was still unable to let go even after four years had passed.

Right now, she was asking him out of concern for him as a friend.

“You can’t continue waiting forever,” said Luo Zihui.

“You don’t have to worry, I have a sense of propriety.” Zhang Lingyi laughed then said a few more perfunctory words before hanging up.

And even if he could let go, why was it that he still didn’t want to?



As expected, the efficiency of the executive recruiters was quite admirable. Kelly had quickly emailed Wang Guangning's resume to Huidi International, and the HR department was very satisfied with his qualifications. Thus, they immediately arranged him an interview.

On Monday afternoon, Wang Guangning wore a casual suit and elegantly strode into Huidi International's office in G city.

"You must be Mr Wang Guangning. Please, come with me." The woman who received Wang Guangning was the HR department's administrative assistant, Xia Yingchu. She was tall and slim, and her features were quite pretty. She was one of the top beauties at Huidi International's G city branch, and had countless pursuers. When Xia Yingchu's sight fell upon Wang Guangning's charismatic and handsome appearance, her eyes brightened momentarily. Her smile became even sweeter as she guided him to the conference room.

"I wonder where Mr Wang is from? I don't seem to have encountered you in the industry before," said Xia Yingchu. Although her status in the company wasn't high, she benefited from her intimate relationships with those in more influential positions. Hence, she would often have the opportunity to come into contact with eminent figures. However, other than the HR manager of their department, Zhang Lingyi, she had never met another young, handsome and successful person like Wang Guangning. It was a pity that Zhang Lingyi's heart apparently already belonged to someone else, and he basically did not care about other women. Xia Yingchu had probed him a few times but to no avail. She was even admonished once, so she had no choice but to give up.

Her heart couldn't help but tremble upon seeing Wang Guangning; hence, she took the initiative to converse with him.

"I was raised in S city, but I worked in Taiwan for the past two years." Wang Guangning smiled, "How come your HR manager is not present?" Generally, when an outstanding talent like him appeared for an interview, the HR manager would receive them in person.

“Oh, our Manager Zhang is currently on a business trip for these couple of days. He will only return this afternoon, so I have been the one arranging your interview.” Xia Yingchu wanted to take advantage of the situation and try to get closer to Wang Guangning. She seemed as if she wished to speak some more, but they had arrived at the conference room.

“Mr Wang, please sit. I will go and request for our director.” Xia Yingchu brought Wang Guangning over to a seat, then shot him another grin before she left. “Oh, right. My name is Xia Yingchu, but you can just call me *Xiao*⁶ Chu. If you have any questions, feel free to find me at any time.”

[6] : when ‘ ’ is placed before a person’s name, it usually indicates familiarity or intimacy with one another.

“Sure.” Wang Guangning’s smile didn’t change.

Huidi International’s marketing director, David, was a middle-aged man with a medium build and a strong presence. He arrived quickly and shook hands with Wang Guangning. “It’s a pleasure to meet you, Ning.”

“It’s a pleasure to meet you too, David.” Wang Guangning replied.

The two men sat down and made small talk for a while. Then they switched over to the main focus of the interview.

It was obvious that David was extremely satisfied with Wang Guangning, and they unknowingly chatted for more than an hour.

“Okay, then we’ll end it here today.” David said, “Ning, I greatly appreciate what you can do. However, I still need to discuss with my team. I will give you my reply within the week.

“No problem.” Wang Guangning stood up and shook hands with David again.

David called for Xia Yingchu to lead him out.

Huidi International's office was on the 35th floor, and Xia Yingchu walked Wang Guangning over to the elevator.

"Thank you, Miss Xia." Wang Guangning's smile was warm, to the extent that Xia Yingchu became giddy and overlooked the fact that Wang Guangning didn't address her by 'Xiao Chu' (as she had previously stated in her self-introduction).

Xia Yingchu prepared to continue the conversation, but Wang Guangning had already entered the elevator.

During working hours, the elevator was generally empty. Wang Guangning stretched out his limbs; interviews truly were quite tiring.

At the same time, his heart also felt very complicated. He hadn't expected that Zhang Lingyi was on a business trip. No wonder he had not heard any news from the man when Kelly forwarded his resume to the company.

Wang Guangning's mood was difficult to explain. He wanted to see Zhang Lingyi, yet, he was also afraid of confronting him again.

The elevator reached the first floor. Outside, there was someone waiting. Wang Guangning lifted his head then immediately froze.

Standing in front of the doors was Zhang Lingyi.

The past four years had polished the other man to become more calm and reserved. As Zhang Lingyi stood there dressed in Western-styled clothing, he seemed to exhibit an imposing manner of one who regarded the entire world disdainfully.

It seemed that wherever Zhang Lingyi stood, that place would become a stage.

...I mean, they *technically* did meet, so ~ |▽//)

Have I ever mentioned how much I dislike (translating) filler chapters? Dx I just want ZLY and WGN to see each other again TT – TT

/teaser for the next chapter/

ZLY: COME LIVE WITH ME~ _(:3 ∠)_

WGN: (_)

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 036

036

“So, do you want to live together with me?”



Zhang Lingyi also caught sight of Wang Guangning. He stared blankly for a moment, then his pupils suddenly widened. Despite the tumultuous waves crashing against his heart, the expression on his face was unchanged.

Was this a dream? Or was it reality?

For the past four years, Zhang Lingyi had dreamed of their reunion countless times. Each dream had seemed extremely real, to the extent where he had become so deeply immersed that he was not willing to wake up. As soon as it appeared in reality though, he retreated.

In that second, it was as if time had frozen. The two had probably never imagined that they would reunite under such abrupt circumstances, so were both temporarily at a loss of what to do.

Underneath his utter bewilderment, Zhang Lingyi was also faintly angry.

Four years was far too long. It had resulted in the blurring of their shared memories, yet, magnified the pain of reality.

It was to the extent that he couldn't help but hate Wang Guangning.

The elevator doors were like the gateway of time, causing the period of the last four years to be slowly spread out right in front of them.

The pair stood there, facing each other as they studied the familiar yet strange features before them.

It was different, that was plain to see. The planes of their faces had matured, carrying a hint of vicissitude distinctive of the years that had passed. However, they also unexpectedly overlapped with the memories of each other from four years ago.

During the silence, the elevator doors had begun to slowly close. Wang Guangning recovered first and promptly hit the button that would open them. He walked out, the corner of his lips curving up into a charming smile. “Long time no see.”

Zhang Lingyi hadn’t anticipated that these four words would be the ones which Wang Guangning would speak first. He was stunned for a second, then forced out a stiff smile. “Long time no see.”

It truly was a long time since they had last seen each other. In that moment, everything that he had prepared to say when they met again was forgotten.

Wang Guangning extended his right hand and Zhang Lingyi gripped it mechanically.

“You probably still have matters to attend to, so let’s go out for a drink next time when we’re free,” Wang Guangning said. He pulled out his business card from his wallet, then handed it to Zhang Lingyi. “This is my business card.”

Zhang Lingyi accepted it, then stared blankly as Wang Guangning turned and strode away.

It wasn’t until the shadow of Wang Guangning’s figure had disappeared that he finally recovered.

“Wang Guangning!” Zhang Lingyi suddenly slammed his fist into the wall. However, he didn’t know exactly what he was trying to give vent to.

Zhang Lingyi sorted out his state of mind, then took the elevator to Huidi International's office on the 35th floor. He received a call from David as soon as he entered; the other man requested to meet him.

"Lingyi, you came a moment too late! I was interviewing our candidate only a while ago." David looked at Zhang Lingyi in excitement. "A particularly exceptional young man just left. This is great, now we can set the marketing director position for our Southern China branch."

"Oh, was that person really so outstanding?" Zhang Lingyi raised his eyebrows. The marketing director position had been empty for quite a long time since they were unable to find a person suitable for it. David's fussiness was also notorious in the industry; thus, it was truly unexpected to hear him speak so highly of someone else

"*En*, it's Fumaokaisi's marketing director. His name is Ning, and he recently came back from Taiwan," David told him. "We'll arrange for you to meet him whenever you're free during the next few days. If there are no problems, then we'll take him."

Fumaokaisi?

Ning?

Zhang Lingyi recalled the business card that Wang Guangning had given him. His expression shifted slightly, and he asked, "Is the person you're talking about Wang Guangning?"

"Yes! You know him?" David's eyes shone. He seemed to have just thought of something. "Oh, right. He was your fellow classmate. *En*, many talented people have graduated from your university! Not bad, not bad."

So, Wang Guangning's reason for appearing here was because he had an interview with Huidi International?

Although Zhang Lingyi's mood was somewhat complicated, he still held a faint sense of anticipation. "Okay, David. I'll be in this city for the next two days, so you can arrange a meeting at any time."



That evening, Wang Guangning watched TV while lying on his bed in the hotel. He also used his iPad to check through his emails. His phone abruptly began vibrating, and he picked it up. A series of numbers flashed across the screen.

Wang Guangning's heart trembled. Although this string of numbers did not exist in his contact list, it was etched deeply into his memory. When he was in Taiwan, there were many occasions where he almost couldn't restrain himself from dialling those exact numbers.

Unexpectedly, *he* hadn't changed his number.

Wang Guangning felt an indescribable emotion swell up. After hesitating for a few seconds, he finally picked up

"Hello."

"Hey.....Wang Guangning?"

"*En*, may I ask who you are?" Wang Guangning grabbed the cup of water from his bedside table and gulped it down, purposely pretending that he didn't know the identity of the caller.

"It's me, Zhang Lingyi." Flames erupted in Zhang Lingyi's chest, and he struggled to hold back from flaring up.

"Oh. What's the matter?"

What kind of attitude was this?!

Zhang Lingyi suddenly had the urge to throw down his phone and rush over to cut apart Wang Guangning's penis. He silently gave himself ten seconds to rebuild his mental state before saying, "Are you free right now? Come out and have a drink!"

Wang Guangning glanced at the time. It was just before nine. He replied, "Sure. You can decide on the location."

“Where are you currently staying at?” Zhang Lingyi asked.

“Tang Hua Hotel.”

“There’s a bar called Polis close by. Let’s meet there!”

“*En*, all right.”

Wang Guangning calmly hung up, then jumped out of his bed in a manner that was decidedly *not* calm. Opening his suitcase, Wang Guangning rummaged through it frantically. After much difficulty, he finally changed into a set of casual clothes that he felt was capable of insta-killing thousands of girls. Then, he began the process of fixing his hair.

By the time he managed to get ready and arrived outside of Polis, it was already an hour later.

Zhang Lingyi sat on the side of the bar counter where one could easily see it as soon as they walked in.

“I’ll have a cocktail,” Wang Guangning said to the bartender as he made to sit down next to Zhang Lingyi.

Even though an entire afternoon was already sufficient time for Zhang Lingyi to digest the fact that Wang Guangning had returned, his frame of mind was still distinctly different upon meeting the other man face-to-face. He stared at Wang Guangning for a long moment, then slowly spoke. “You’ve become ugly.”

Wang Guangning’s expression cracked and he almost couldn’t resist from splashing Zhang Lingyi’s face with his drink.

That was definitely his jealousy speaking! Blatant and undisguised jealousy! Everyone who met Wang Guangning remarked that he had become more handsome; in fact, the worst which had ever been said to him was that ‘his elegant and graceful bearing had not lessened in the least compared to his youth’. Even after all these years, Zhang Lingyi, *that bastard*, still hadn’t forgotten how to insult him.

Wang Guangning eyed him coolly, then retorted, “Well, I obviously can’t be on par with you. You’re already so ugly that it’s impossible for you to be any uglier.”

Upon confirming that Wang Guangning’s fighting spirit was the same as in the past, Zhang Lingyi inwardly sighed with relief. Pursing his lips, he said, “When did you come back?”

In truth, he wanted to seize Wang Guangning’s collar and loudly question the other about why he left without even a goodbye, why he disappeared for four years, why he didn’t contact anyone during the entirety of that period, and why he returned without saying a word.

However, Zhang Lingyi didn’t have any position to do so.

Hence, he ended up asking in a seemingly light and casual manner.

Wang Guangning gently shook his glass. “In the last couple of days.”

Zhang Lingyi shot him a glance, “Why didn’t you give me a call when you returned?”

As soon as the words escaped his mouth, Zhang Lingyi regretted them. In the past four years, Wang Guangning hadn’t corresponded with anyone, so it was impossible that the other would even think of contacting him.

Zhang Lingyi had never truly understood Wang Guangning’s thoughts. There was also no concrete commitment between the two. He had arrogantly believed that at the very least, they were considered friends. In the end, he seemed to have just turned around when the other had already disappeared from his world.

“I didn’t have any time to.” Wang Guangning smiled then sipped his cocktail.

Zhang Lingyi was immediately incensed. *What kind of fucking answer was that?*

‘Didn’t have any time to’? Was it really so difficult to make a phone call in an era like this?

However, regardless of the herd of grass mud horses galloping wildly in his heart, Zhang Lingyi didn’t dare to roar at Wang Guangning like he did in the past. He forced himself to endure it, then said, “Are you here for a business trip, or are you staying permanently?”

“I’m staying permanently. Our company is preparing to expand into the mainland market, so they’ve dispatched me to test the waters. I’ll basically just stay here from now on.”

Zhang Lingyi secretly sighed in relief. “You had an interview with our company today, are you interested in working with us?”

Wang Guangning blinked. The expression on his face changed to one of sudden realisation. “Ah, you also work at Huidi International?”

Zhang Lingyi’s heart sank, and his initial anticipation transformed into disappointment. However, he was a person who had rolled about for several years in the industry, so he immediately adopted a calm guise. “Yes, I’m Huidi International’s HR manager. If you want to enter the company, then you need to properly ingratiate yourself to me.”

Wang Guangning raised his eyebrow and swept a glance over the drink in Zhang Lingyi’s hand. “Then I’ll pay the bill for today.”

The two casually conversed with each other for a while and talked about the recent developments in their lives. As for the past memories that they shared, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi both avoided any mention of them.

By the time they had become mellow from their beverages, it was already late into the night.

Despite their unwillingness to part, in the end, they still had to bid goodbye.

The pair walked alongside each other and exited the bar. Zhang Lingyi flagged down a taxi and had just opened the door when he thought of something. “Since you’re staying in G city permanently, are you looking to buy an apartment?”

“Of course~ Our company’s expenditure budget isn’t high enough for me to live in a hotel forever,” Wang Guangning replied with a laugh that made others feel dazed upon hearing it. He was slightly intoxicated from all of the drinks he had, and there was a faint flush across his face.

“What kind of place are you searching for?”

Wang Guangning raised his head and thought about it. “An apartment like yours would be pretty good.”

Zhang Lingyi casually offered, “In that case, you might as well just come and live in my apartment.”

Wang Guangning replied, “I do want to, but is your family even renting it out?”

Zhang Lingyi’s heart shook and he grinned, “Yeah, we’re actually in the middle of looking for tenants right now. The rent is two thousand a month; water and electricity are provided and a guest room will also be included. Do you want it?”

“Are you serious?” Wang Guangning clasped his hands over his chest and revealed an expression of horror. “Such a good opportunity exists? You’re not trying to take advantage of the situation because you have evil intentions towards me, right?”

Black lines covered Zhang Lingyi’s face and he reached out to touch Wang Guangning’s chest, “Do you possess anything worthy of me holding evil intentions towards? You don’t even have a chest!”

Wang Guangning responded resolutely, “My dick is big!”

Fuck! What the hell did you end up learning in Taiwan?

Stunned, Zhang Lingyi swept a glance over Wang Guangning's.....lower half. It seemed that the other man's limits had once again been refreshed.

No, I can't lose!

Hence, Zhang Lingyi straightened himself and said, "I have that myself. If you dedicate.....*en*, then I can consider it!"

Even though the details hidden within those ellipses were not clearly stated, the two of them were both people who had experience in being gay. Therefore, they could basically just use their own brain to fill in the gaps.

Consequently, Wang Guangning's body froze in shock. = =|||

Very good, he had successfully managed to hold the atmosphere!

Zhang Lingyi was extremely satisfied.

Wang Guangning gazed at him in contempt. "Have you been.....eyeing me covetously since a long time ago?"

Enough!

Zhang Lingyi shrugged and decided to ignore him. "When I first started working a few years ago, there was a lot of pressure. Since my parents aren't home for most of the year, I rented out the guest room to earn some pocket-money. However, my housemate just moved out last month and the guest room is empty again. If you're willing, I can rent it to you."

So, it turned out that Zhang Lingyi really was looking for a tenant and not because he was deliberately searching for an excuse to persuade him to move in.

Wang Guangning felt a little disappointed, but ultimately still decided to obey his heart. He reached out and patted Zhang Lingyi's shoulder, "Come and help me move out in two days then!"

Wang Guangning's action was very natural, to the extent that it seemed as if there had never been that time gap between them. When both of them

became aware of what had just transpired, they were slightly embarrassed.

Wang Guangning quickly recovered and gave Zhang Lingyi a push. “Get into the taxi, the driver’s becoming angry.”

After watching the vehicle speed away into the distance, Wang Guangning shook his head and walked back to his hotel.

As for Zhang Lingyi who was sitting in the taxi, he didn’t manage to recover for quite a long period.

Scene by scene, the memory of four years ago once again appeared in his mind. Just like how he had experienced it in his dreams countless for the past four years, each scene was as clear as yesterday.

He didn’t understand why Wang Guangning decided to leave back then.

During those four years, he had tried multitudes of methods in his attempts to find Wang Guangning. However, the other truly was a very intelligent man. When he wanted to sever contact with people, he was capable of cutting off all means of correspondence.

Even Sun Siyang couldn’t reach him.

But, no matter what happened, he had returned now.

Originally, he had thought that it would take more time to draw their relationship closer to each other again. He hadn’t imagined that Wang Guangning would unexpectedly accept his invitation so easily.

Zhang Lingyi gently closed his eyes.

Wang Guangning, when did you become such an amazing actor? = = ‘

By the way, how many people use Discord here?

translator: k i a i

OceanofPDF.com

ABG30D; 037

037

“Hence, anyone want a short sex¹ clip?”



The next day, Wang Guangning received a call from David just when he was about to meet a client after the conclusion of a conference with his colleagues at Fumaokaisi.

“Hey, Ning. I have some good news to tell you.” David’s voice sounded extremely excited, “After a discussion with our team, we have decided that you are very suitable for our company. When you’re free, come and greet our HR manager; everything is basically already set.”

Wang Guangning laughed, “David, thank you for your acknowledgment and appreciation. I quite admire Huidi, however, I’m afraid that I will not be able to work for you.”

“Why do you say that?” David’s tone sank. “Is *Lao*² Zhou retaining you?”

[2] : Basically translates to ‘old’ Zhou. It’s use to indicate affection/familiarity, or to refer to someone who is venerable/experience/of long standing.

Lao Zhou was the honorific that people in the industry used to refer to Fumaokaisi’s boss.

“No,” Wang Guangning refuted. “It’s just that I met the love of my life³ at Huidi. In order to prevent the occurrence of an office romance, I believe that it is necessary to give up this opportunity.”

[3] : literally translates to ‘my true love of an entire lifetime’.

In truth, Wang Guangning felt slightly guilty when he said this since he didn’t have the intention to work at Huidi from the very beginning.

David was shocked upon hearing Wang Guangning’s declaration. If Wang Guangning said that *Lao Zhou* had given him a salary increase, then he could still attempt to convince the other. However, after Wang Guangning suddenly brought out his personal feelings, David didn’t know how to respond. “The person that you’re speaking about is.....”

“I still haven’t caught them yet!” Wang Guangning replied. “Please keep this a secret for the time being. After I have successfully pursued them, I will invite you out for a drink.”

Since it had been explained like this, David didn’t have anything else to say. He could only sigh in regret. “Alright then. I wish you well in winning her heart⁴ soon.”

[4] : to win the heart of a beauty (and live happily together).

“Thank you.” Wang Guangning said.

David appeared quite calm during the phone call, but it was an entirely different case when he hung up. He slammed his hand down on the desk heavily, “This Ning is truly too ridiculous. He actually went as far as to say that he’d fallen in love with someone at our company and wouldn’t consider the opportunity we’ve given him.”

David had immediately phoned Wang Guangning after the conclusion of a team meeting. Thus, everyone else was still present during the call and were watching him.

After hearing David’s words, a flash of light streaked past their eyes. After all, they had met too many people who’d given up a job opportunity at the last moment. At the most, Ning was just a bit more elegant and refined compared to others; there wasn’t anything exceptional about him. However,

to their surprise, his reason for doing so was very different and stood out from the masses.

Everyone's urge to gossip suddenly ignited, but they couldn't be too obvious about it in the presence of their director. Feigning calm, they asked, "Oh. Did he say who?"

David shook his head, still in a fit of anger. "He just returned to the mainland; how could he have come into contact with one of our company staff? It's definitely just an excuse."

And a clumsy excuse at that. He must not be forgiven!

"Ah, that's not necessarily true~" A woman interjected. She was dressed in a professional suit and exuded the aura of an elite. "Didn't he come to our company for an interview? Maybe he met someone then....."

"The only two people he came into contact with that day were Yingchu and I." David said, panting with rage.

"Oh~" When they heard this, realisation hit and everyone murmured meaningfully. "Xia Yingchu....."

It was well-known knowledge that Xia Yingchu was reputed to be the goddess of Huidi International's southern branch. Her ability to attract the other sex was obvious to all. If this was the case, then everything made sense.

Hence, the rumour that Fumaokaisi's marketing director, Ning, fell in love at first sight with Xia Yingchu spread around the entirety of Huidi International before half a day had even passed.

It truly was very exciting!

The gossip became more and more rampant; and by the time it reached Zhang Lingyi's ears, the story was that Wang Guangning and Xia Yingchu had already known each other since many years ago. Afterwards, for the sake of their studies, they reluctantly parted. However, Wang Guangning

was unable to forget Xia Yingchu during the entire period of his stay in Taiwan. Consequently, he did his utmost to find a way back to the mainland. He wanted to reunite⁵ with Xia Yingchu and ignite their flames of loves once again.

[5] : a shattered mirror put back together (idiom); (of marriage) to pick up the pieces and start anew; for a separated couple to reconcile and reunite.

Considering that Wang Guangning was young, handsome and successful, he had become a highly eligible bachelor in G city's business community not long after returning. Thus, Xia Yingchu immediately became the person who inspired the most envy and hate in Huidi International.

As he had once been Wang Guangning's classmate and gay partner, Zhang Lingyi knew for certain that the gossip was not true. Yet, he still couldn't help but feel slightly out of sorts.

Hence, he pasted on a blank expression and asked Xia Yingchu in feigned casualness. "Yingchu, did you receive Wang Guangning when he arrived for the interview?"

That day, Xia Yingchu had not exchanged many words with Wang Guangning and had originally felt a bit awkward. Who knew that an opportunity would unexpectedly present itself. To Xia Yingchu's surprise, she heard that Wang Guangning had fallen in love at first sight with her and even let go of a work offer at Huidi International. She had long felt restless, but Xia Yingchu knew that she couldn't be too proud of herself in front of her immediate superior. Therefore, she revealed a bashful face and said, "Yes."

"En, and what do you think of him?" Zhang Lingyi continued to question her expressionlessly. Inside, he repeated to himself: *act natural, act natural!*

Xia Yingchu's cheeks flushed lightly. "Mr Wang is very good, he has extreme poise."

Of course he does!

When Wang Guangning had discovered Yu Haining's true face all those years ago, he was still able to go over and show consideration when she was drunk!

Zhang Lingyi didn't expect that even after all these years, this aspect hadn't changed a bit.

In his heart, Zhang Lingyi was fiercely ridiculing her. Yet, his outer appearance was indifferent.

Xia Yingchu felt as if there was something not quite right. Zhang Lingyi was a man who drew very distinct lines between one's public and private lives, and had never inquired about other people's private affairs during working hours. Today, he seemed a bit strange.

As a result, Xia Yingchu asked cautiously, "Manager, for you to question me about this.....is something the matter?"

"En. I have a task for you to complete!" Zhang Lingyi said. As a professional manager who knew the clear divide between public and private concerns, he would obviously not use his authority over his subordinates to retaliate. *But.....*

Zhang Lingyi stood up then picked up a box containing waste paper that was originally placed in a corner. He handed it to Xia Yingchu and said, "Take this and shred it."

Indeed, he was particularly childish!

Xia Yingchu stared at the box of waste paper with wide eyes. *It would take until tomorrow to finish shredding this, right?*

She took the box, her emotions in disarray. As a beautiful assistant, her job had always been to receive visiting clients and guests. *Why did she also have to do something like shredding paper?!*

While angrily feeding paper into the shredder one by one, Xia Yingchu fiercely daydreamed in her mind.

Hmph! After she married Wang Guangning, she would definitely hand in her resignation letter on Zhang Lingyi's desk with a noble and indifferent manner. She would lift her nose into the air and say, "This lady⁶ is now a wife⁷, I am no longer willing to work for you!"

[6] : basically translates to 'I, this old woman'.

[7] : used to refer to the young lady of the house; wife of the young master.

Wow, haha, a future similar to those of an idol drama's female lead was currently unfolding for her.

[Ah Zhi (author): *Young lady Xia, I have a piece of unfortunate news for you. The script you're in right now is.....a gay one.*]

After oppressing Xia Yingchu, Zhang Lingyi's mood was slightly better. Of course, the main reason for this change was because of what he was going to do after work——helping Wang Guangning move into his house.



In order to expand Fumaokaisi into southern China's market, Wang Guangning was staying in G city permanently this time. According to the original plan, he should be living in the apartment allocated to him by the company. However, since Zhang Lingyi had said that he was renting out his house, Wang Guangning decided to ignore the benefit provided to him by the company.

As Wang Guangning didn't have his own means of transport, Zhang Lingyi drove his low-profile four-wheel drive to pick up the other man from Fumaokaisi. Afterwards, they would go together to Wang Guangning's hotel and collect his luggage.

Fumaokaisi's branch in G city hadn't been established for very long, so the staff were all quite young. There were even a few recent graduates, to the overall atmosphere was energetic and lively.

Wang Guangning had been sent here to expand into the mainland market, so he was extremely busy every day. When Zhang Lingyi arrived, Wang Guangning was still in a conference. Thus, he casually asked the administrative girl to receive him.

The girl was a part-time intern, and her youthfulness was unparalleled. Upon smiling, her two maxillary canines were revealed. Her eyes lit up when she saw Zhang Lingyi, and she led him to the reception with a grin. Handing him a glass of water, she said, “Mr Zhang, Ning *ge*⁸ is currently in a conference. He’d like you to please take a rest here, and he’ll come to find you in a while.”

[8] : means ‘elder/older brother’, but isn’t only reserved for those one is related to; can be used to show familiarity/respect etc.

The employees at Fumaokaisi’s G city branch were not very old, so they spoke quite casually. They called everyone who was around or over Wang Guangning’s age *ge*.

Since he didn’t have much to do anyway, Zhang Lingyi gestured at the administrative girl, “Do you have time right now? If you do, let’s talk for a bit.”

The girl had initially just finished work, but there was a super attractive man wanting to converse with her, so she hastily nodded and sat down. “Mr Zhang, what would you like to talk about?”

Zhang Lingyi laughed. “You don’t have to keep referring to me as Mr Zhang. I used to be a classmate of your Ning *ge*, so it’s fine to just call me Zhang *ge*.”

The administrative girl smiled and nodded.

Zhang Lingyi asked, “When was your Ning *ge* assigned to come here?”

The girl looked blank, “I’m not too sure about this. According to the company procedure, it should have been proposed around six months prior;

however, the matter of actually moving here should be about two weeks ago.”

In other words, Wang Guangning knew that he was returning to G city since six months ago. Yet, he had never thought about contacting him.

If it wasn't because Zhang Lingyi managed to coincidentally meet him at the interview, was Wang Guangning planning to never tell him?

Zhang Lingyi was so entangled in his thoughts that he didn't notice the brightening in the administrative girl's eyes.

“Ah, so what is Zhang *ge* coming to find Wang *ge* for?” The desire for gossip ignited in the girl.

Generally, very few people would come to the company if it wasn't because of some work related issue. On the other hand, if it was a matter concerning work, then Wang Guangning would definitely not have her receive the guest while he held a conference.

Zhang Lingyi smiled, “To move in together.”

Move in together? Why did this answer sound so ambiguous?!

The administrative girl continued chatting with Zhang Lingyi; at the same time, she fished out her phone and opened QQ. She tapped on a group named <<*Gonna die~ All the men I know are gay*>>

That's right! The administrative girl was one of the legendary rotten women!

AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens: Darlings~ A super attractive man has come to our company looking for our marketing director!

Bazahei!: Your marketing director? The one who you said was so world-shakingly handsome at first glance that he had to be a uniquely beautiful gong?

AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens: Yeah, but the man who came today seems to be more like a gong by just a bit. Our director has become the *shou* momentarily! What do I do? They look so perfect together, I don't think I can handle anymore o(≥v≤)o

PassingOfYesterday: Requesting live broadcast!

Bazahei!: Requesting live broadcast +1

CalabashBrother: Requesting live broadcast +2

IVXiao7: Requesting live broadcast +10086

PingXieLovingEachOtherForTenThousandYears⁹: Requesting live broadcast + I.D number!

[9] : (píng xié) pretty sure this is a gay pairing/ship in the novel

AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens:

AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens: Calm down, we're in the company right now. Besides, no matter how bold and unrestrained they are, they still won't publicly roll between the bed sheets!

Bazahei!: Even if they did publicly roll between the sheets, we still wouldn't be able to see it!

CalabashBrother: Exactly. That's why we actually just wanted you to send us a short sex¹ clip to watch!

IVXiao7: @AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens Please send!

YouthsDoNotKnowTheFragranceOfEdibleTreeFungus:
@AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens Please send!

PainInTheTightChrusanthemum:
@AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens Please send!

.....

Black lines covered the administrative girl's face as she stared down at the orderly troops in the group chat. She deeply felt as if she had just dug herself a hole and jumped into it; sweating heavily, she withdrew from the chat.

At that precise moment, Wang Guangning knocked on the door and strode in.

“Ning *ge*.” The administrative girl stood up quickly. “You’re finished with the conference?”

Wang Guangning nodded, then said to Zhang Lingyi, “Let’s go.”

Side by side, they both exited the room. As she watched their tall and straight figures walk away, the administrative girl became momentarily muddled and completely collapsed. Hence, she once again entered the QQ group chat.

AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens: They’re simply too perfect together! I’ve decided to write ten thousand words about sex¹ for them!

YouthsDoNotKnowTheFragranceOfEdibleTreeFungus: Adorable Deity, good job!

PingXieLovingEachOtherForTenThousandYears: Remember to mass text!

CalabashBrother: Waiting!

IVXiao7: Eating cucumber¹⁰ while waiting!

[10] ...Think what you will... ㄗ () ㄗ

.....

AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens:

@AdorableDeityIlluminatedByTheHeavens I want to read that 10, 000 word piece too~ (´∀`*)/

[1] H: has several translations, but basically means sex/making love/intimate relations etc.

In the next chapter—two men fighting over their son~ (Ⅲ)

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 038

038

“Wang Dafa: My other father has returned home!”



Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyi walked out of Fumaokaisi’s office together. Zhang Lingyi inserted a hand into the pocket of his pants, then pretended to carelessly ask, “I heard from David that you rejected our company’s offer?”

Wang Guangning responded, “*En.*”

Zhang Lingyi glanced at him furtively out of the corner of his eye, “Why?”

Wang Guangning shrugged. “I just arrived in G city and Fumaokaisi has only recently started its expansion into the mainland market. It’s not appropriate for me to leave at this time”

Then why the hell did you go to the interview?! Are you making fun of our company?

Grass mud horses whistled past Zhang Lingyi internally. He really wanted to hold down Wang Guangning and ask him about the matter of him liking one of their company’s staff. Did he really hold interest towards Xia Yingchu?

However, it didn’t seem as if Wang Guangning wanted to mention it. Thus, Zhang Lingyi could only resentfully drop that subject.

The two climbed in the car then drove towards Tang Hua, the hotel where Wang Guangning was staying at.

Even though he was ‘moving houses’, Wang Guangning actually only had two suitcases. They contained his clothes and other daily necessities. He had already sent the rest of his luggage back to his home in S city ages ago.

The pair walked out, each pulling a suitcase. Wang Guangning went to the front desk to check out while Zhang Lingyi waited for him by the door.

When Wang Guangning finished checking out, he saw Zhang Lingyi standing at the entrance of the hotel. He was holding the suitcase in one hand, and a cigarette in the other.

Wang Guangning frowned slightly, “When did you learn to smoke?”

Although the time he had spent interacting with Zhang Lingyi was not long, they had both paid attention to the activities of the other. Wang Guangning knew that Zhang Lingyi’s living habits were quite good and he definitely didn’t smoke.

“You don’t like it?” Zhang Lingyi smiled then pressed the cigarette into a bin near the door, extinguishing it. “Then I’ll quit.”

A strange emotion rose in his heart, and Wang Guangning said, “You don’t need to go that far. I won’t interfere with other people’s preferences.” Although, he did indeed feel that smoking was bad.

Zhang Lingyi shrugged. “It’s alright. I originally didn’t smoke often anyway.”

The first time he smoked was when Luo Zihui broke up with him.

They had dated for a month, but the number of occasions they had met up was less than three because he had spent all of his time searching for Wang Guangning.

Luo Zihui had mentioned breaking up with him via a phone call, causing Zhang Lingyi to spend half a day in his dormitory lost in thought. When his

roommate asked him about what happened, he said that Luo Zihui wanted to break up.

However, the reason why he felt so despondent was not because Luo Zihui wanted to break up with him. Rather, it was because Zhang Lingyi had unexpectedly felt relieved after Luo Zihui brought it up.

It was only then that he realised who he truly held feelings towards.

Naturally, his roommate had not known the truth and merely thought that he had fallen in love. He gave Zhang Lingyi a cigarette.

Zhang Lingyi was someone who had a very healthy lifestyle. During the four years, he had not smoked often. Most of the time, he had smoked when he was unable to control his own thoughts and longing.

Now, it was time to quit smoking.

Collecting his emotions, Zhang Lingyi placed the suitcases into the trunk of the car. He performed a Superman gesture then said, "Let's go home."

Wang Guangning: = =|||

Why was it that after so many of years of having not seen each other, this person hadn't changed and was still so idiotic?

Even though Wang Guangning was slightly stunned, he felt an indescribable warmth in his heart.

When they arrived at Zhang Lingyi's house, Wang Guangning stared at the familiar yet strange setting and was momentarily struck by a sense of regret.

The overall layout was basically the same as four years ago. However, since Zhang Lingyi now lived in this apartment, it was filled with his daily necessities and did not feel as cold as before.

Zhang Lingyi led Wang Guangning to a room and pushed his suitcases in. "You can take some time to unpack your things. I'll go and cook." After saying this, he left without another word.

Wang Guangning sat on the edge of the bed and examined the room.

The size of it was not very big, but it contained a large bed, a desk, and a closet.

Stationery was scattered across the table, and the quilt on the bed was evidently new. On the whole, the room appeared simple and clean.

On a wall near the desk, there was a bay window. Zhang Lingyi had covered the ledge with a layer of cushioning, so it was very comfortable to sit on when admiring the scenery outside.

Wang Guangning immediately fell in love with the room.

Standing up, Wang Guangning let his muscles relax then opened his suitcase. He began taking out his belongings and setting them in place.

By the time the room was entirely pervaded by his traces, Zhang Lingyi had also finished making dinner.

“Come and eat.” Zhang Lingyi stood outside the door and knocked on it to gain Wang Guangning attention. As he swept a glance over the almost full room, Zhang Lingyi felt a place in his heart also fill up.

The person he liked was by his side; Zhang Lingyi would be able to see the other whenever he wanted, and they could eat together.

Even though he didn't know what the future held, this was already quite good.



After several years of having not seen each other, Zhang Lingyi's cooking skills seemed to have progressed immensely. Although it was only the two of them, Zhang Lingyi had specially made an extra two dishes and opened a bottle of plum wine to celebrate Wang Guangning's move.

Wang Guangning had not eaten homemade food for a couple of years, so he unconsciously ate an additional bowl of rice.

Zhang Lingyi's brows were raised in delight and his eyes shone with laughter as he watched, secretly feeling very pleased with himself.

The proverb was right: in order to grasp the heart of a *xiao shou*, one had to first win over his stomach.

Zhang Youzhi¹ took a sip of the plum wine and pretended to inadvertently say, "My cooking skills are pretty good, right?"

[1] : childish xD

Wang Guangning glanced at him and said, "*En*, not bad. In the future, the sovereignty of the kitchen will be handed to you!" Then he resumed digging into his food.

Giving a short cough, Zhang Youzhi continued to ask nonchalantly, "You've been in Taiwan for several years; you probably haven't met anyone who cooks better than me, right?"

This question was a bit odd, and Wang Guangning's heart stirred. He replied, "Actually, I have....."

Zhang Youzhi: "!!!!"

"Female classmates? Or female colleagues?" Zhang Lingyi questioned.

Wang Guangning pursed his lips, "That's none of your business!"

Zhang Lingyi was struck down by that heavy blow.

Ah, right...

How Wang Guangning fared in Taiwan, whether anyone suitable appeared...

What qualifications did he have to ask?

It suddenly became silent at the table.

Wang Guangning was slightly confused about Zhang Lingyi's way of thinking.

When he had left, Wang Guangning believed that after all was said and done, Zhang Lingyi liked girls. Hence, there was no possibility of any development between the two of them.

But after returning, he found out that Zhang Lingyi and Luo Zihui had broken up. Zhang Lingyi's attitude had also been very odd ever since they met again.

It was odd to the point that at times, Wang Guangning suspected whether Zhang Lingyi actually did feel something towards him.

If it wasn't because of the fact that the wound he had received four years ago was too deep and those painful memories were too profound, Wang Guangning would probably have run over impulsively and asked Zhang Lingyi.

After they finished eating dinner, Zhang Lingyi took the initiative to assume the responsibility of washing the dishes.

Wang Guangning strolled towards the balcony to watch the nightscape.

When looking down from above, one wouldn't really think that this city was any different compared to four years ago.

The distinct heights between all of the buildings were similar to undulating mountain ranges in the dim light while flickers of neon twinkled resplendently like luxuriant flowers.

However, upon actually walking amongst them, one would then realise that many things had already changed.

Wang Guangning inhaled deeply, breathing in the night air before turning back to the living room to watch TV.

The result was that he became distracted as soon as he sat down. Next to the TV, there was a small potted plant. It contained a bulky and rather sturdy

money tree.

Naturally, Wang Guangning still remembered Wang Dafa, the plant that they had raised together.

When Wang Guangning originally left, he had severed every link they had shared together. This included Wang Dafa, whom he had directly thrown away in his dormitory.

Wang Guangning wasn't sure if this potted plant was Wang Dafa.

The plant was much plumper, and the pot was also different.

However, it was normal for Wang Dafa to have grown during the past four years.

The original pot would have definitely not been large enough if the plant had grown so big. It wasn't surprising that the pot had been changed.

However, if it really was Wang Dafa, why would Zhang Lingyi still raise it?

Wang Guangning was unable to understand. At that moment, Zhang Lingyi walked out after having finished washing the dishes. Wang Guangning pointed at the plant and asked, "Zhang Lingyi, is this Wang Dafa?"

"No." Zhang Lingyi glanced at the money tree, then replied in an extremely calm manner, "It's Zhang Dafa!"

"Get lost!" Wang Guangning rushed over to pick up the potted plant and said, "Ah, it's really my son!"

There was an indescribable feeling in his heart; he felt a bit happy, but also slightly emotional.

He had previously thought that this potted plant was either neglected or taken by Sun Siyang and used to block radiation until it absorbed too much and died.

He hadn't imagined that it would unexpectedly grow so white and plump under Zhang Lingyi's care.

[Ah Zhi (author): *Ah, hey, it should be green and plump, right?*]

Zhang Lingyi answered coldly, "He's already no longer your son. You abandoned him²."

[2] / : the author switches between 'him' and 'it' respectively when referring to Wang Dafa throughout this chapter ^^

Wang Guangning flung back his head in a loveably arrogant manner. "Blood is thicker than water³. No matter how long we are separated, he will always be my son!"

[3] : (blood relation; kin; one's flesh and blood), (feeling; emotion), (deep).

Zhang Lingyi responded contemptuously, "Then why don't you ask him whether he recognises a mother like you!"

Wang Guangning was immediately incited. His eyes were like daggers, gouging out holes from all over Zhang Lingyi's body. "You're the mother, I'm the father!"

Tilting his head up towards the ceiling, Zhang Lingyi said, "Ah, that year.....you threw the coin.....and it landed on the chrysanthemum....."

Wang Guangning: "....."

Wang Guangning hmped. "He's called Wang Dafa!"

Zhang Lingyi retorted unhappily, "You abandoned him. I was the one who painstakingly raised him for all these years. It's due to my efforts that he has now grown up and become an adult. He must follow my surname!"

Wang Guangning's lips twitched, and his enthusiasm to refuse acknowledgement of his loss once again emerged, just like back then.

“Doesn’t matter. *Laozi* has returned now so he must follow *laozi*’s surname!”

He looked at the money tree while he was speaking. As if talking to himself, Wang Guangning asked, “*Ah*, Dafa, do you want to be surnamed Zhang or surnamed Wang?”

Then he pinched his voice and said, “Zhang Dafa sounds too unpleasant, I want to be surnamed Wang!”

Zhang Lingyi: “.....”

Zhang Lingyi wiped his face. “You can go and take a shower, I need to calm down for a bit!”

Wang Guangning placed Wang Dafa back down and cheerfully went to have his shower. Zhang Lingyi sat on the sofa wordlessly, feeling paralysed.

Wang Guangning must have watched too many Taiwanese idol dramas, right?

Why did he feel that his IQ.....

Zhang Lingyi thought about this silently.

His phone which was on the table vibrated. Zhang Lingyi picked it up and saw that it was David.

“Hi, David. It’s so late and you’re calling me, is something the matter?”



When Wang Guangning walked out after having finished his shower, Zhang Lingyi had just hung up. “Guangning, I’m going on a business trip to S city tomorrow. I’ll return the day after that.”

Wang Guangning was currently wiping his dripping wet hair with a towel. Upon hearing what Zhang Lingyi said, he replied, “*En*, okay.”

As he spoke, Wang Guangning moved over to sit on the sofa. He was casually wearing a loose T-shirt. There was a hint of fragrance from the shower gel on his body; the scent was fresh, clean and very pleasant.

Zhang Lingyi felt slightly restless and agitated.

“Do you need me to blow-dry your hair?” When he asked this question, Zhang Lingyi felt a bit guilty (as if he was harbouring evil intentions or whatever). However, he still couldn’t control his eyes from staring at Wang Guangning’s pale neck. Droplets of water were dripping onto there as they fell from the tips of his hair before slowly trickling down further.

This was definitely a trial to test the willpower of a real man!

Wang Guangning recalled the time he had the fortune of receiving Zhang xiao cao’s blow-drying service and silently moved an inch away. “My hair dries easily, there’s no need to blow-dry it.”

This strong sense of disdain!

Zhang Lingyi felt wounded!

Zhang Lingyi, you need to work hard (^ _ ^)و

For those interested, I’ll be (finally (A)) uploading the first chapter of RIAIM tomorrow.

Also, in case anyone doesn’t know, Chinese coins (1 *yuan*) feature a chrysanthemum flower on one side ~

/teaser for the next chapter/

ZLY: *Shou shou* is the best! (♡ ~ ♡)

WGN: (≡ Ò Ó) I am the *gong*!

translator: k i a i

OceanofPDF.com

ABG30D; 039

039

“The kitchen is forever a place that radiates gay love.....”



The next day, Zhang Lingyi departed on his business trip. Wang Guangning held a meeting with the local dealers.

Fumaokaisi had not been in the mainland market for long so the team involved with the dealers were not very experienced. A very important part of Wang Guangning's work was perfecting the distribution channels.

However, the experienced veteran dealers all already had their own fixed collaboration partners. Moreover, they were all large international corporations such as Huidi International. The cost of getting involved with them was too high and it was not profitable for Fumaokaisi's G city branch whose foundation in the mainland was still unstable.

If they cultivated a new team to work with dealers again, it would take too much time. Furthermore, it would be extremely easy for the local traditional dealers to suppress them. The risks were too high.

Wang Guangning discussed this with the entire marketing team for several days. They ultimately decided to select one of the two well-known local veteran dealers and form a fixed partnership with them. As a first-class exclusive agent, he could negotiate some favourable terms for them. At the same time, Wang Guangning could get in touch with a few rising dealers and develop a second class proxy group. Once the second class proxy group matured, they could discuss conditions with the first class dealers.

Of the top two local dealers, one was in a long-term collaboration with Huidi International while the other was working with a Hong Kong direct-mail corporation.

In order to talk over the optimal conditions, Wang Guangning had been continuously socialising with dealers from both organisations. During the day, if he wasn't holding meetings then he was attending social engagements. At night, he would be writing up plans. Wang Guangning was worn out to the point of complaining endlessly.

Fortunately, the Heavens would not disappoint those who tried¹. At long last, they had a general sketch of everything. However, since the two dealers were in a fixed collaboration with large companies, they were stringent about the price.

[1] : means that if one tries hard, they are bound to succeed eventually.

With no other alternatives, Wang Guangning video conferenced Lao Zhou and they talked it over.

By the time their meeting was over, it was already past nine o'clock in the evening.

Wang Guangning randomly ordered some food from the fast food restaurant near the company. Just when he had finished eating and was preparing to go home, he received a phone call from an unfamiliar number.

“May I ask if this is Mr Wang Guangning? Mr Zhang Lingyi had a car accident and is here at G city's First Municipal Hospital. Are you a family member?”

“I am.” A jolt of panic suddenly attacked Wang Guangning's heart. “I'll come over right now.”

Before he even finished speaking, he had already flagged down a taxi. Clambering inside, Wang Guangning said to the taxi driver, “Quickly go to the First Municipal Hospital!”

Wang Guangning hurriedly arrived at the hospital. He asked for Zhang Lingyi's ward then sprinted towards it, only to be faced with the scene of the other man calmly peeling an apple.

Wang Guangning: "....."

Upon seeing Wang Guangning, Zhang Lingyi was stunned for a moment before feeling somewhat delighted. "How come you're here?"

Wang Guangning replied with a dark face, "One of the hospital staff called me and said that you were in a car accident."

When Wang Guangning was told that Zhang Lingyi had a car accident, his entire heart was overcome with fear. He basically didn't even consider why the staff called him instead of Zhang Lingyi's family.

On the other hand, when Zhang Lingyi heard his words, he recalled that Wang Guangning's number was on his phone's speed-dial. The hospital staff probably just directly called through that.

Of course, to take initiative and mention this matter to Wang Guangning would be embarrassing.

Executing a Popeye gesture, Zhang Lingyi said, "I'm alright, don't worry."

Wang Guangning's heart had already settled after seeing him leisurely² peeling the apple. Waking over, he sat down beside Zhang Lingyi. His expression was still slightly off. "How did you get into a car accident?"

[2] : free and unconstrained (idiom; leisurely and carefree.

Zhang Lingyi looked up at the ceiling, then weakly responded, "Fatigue.....driving....."

Wang Guangning immediately exploded, "Why were you driving while fatigued?"

Zhang Lingyi shrunk back. "Ah, I didn't feel tired. When I was driving back, I clearly felt very energetic."

The truth was that in order to be able to rush back home today, he compressed two days' worth of work into one. Like a gyroscope revolving at high-speed, Zhang Lingyi hurriedly completed it in a day then insisted on driving back to G city.

Originally, the thought of being able to spend the night together with Wang Guangning was something which fiercely raised his spirits. However, he was too exhausted. Zhang Lingyi happened to come across a novice driver and accidentally tailgated.

Wang Guangning was very dissatisfied with Zhang Lingyi's attitude, but the incident had already passed and it was useless to keep roaring. In the end, he was unable to resist the anxiousness in his heart. "Then what about now, what did the doctor say?"

Zhang Lingyi laughed. "It's nothing serious. It's just that my arm was bruised so there's a slight swelling. I won't be able to work for the next two days."

Wang Guangning felt the strong urge to grab Zhang Lingyi's arm then pull up the sleeve and have a look. However, he restrained himself and didn't end up acting upon it. Wang Guangning proceeded to swipe the apple in Zhang Lingyi's hand and started peeling it.

Zhang Lingyi immediately smiled, his eyes curving into crescents. He unexpectedly blurted out, "*Shou shou* is the best!"

Wang Guangning hadn't heard this appellation for a long time. His hand paused. A thousand emotions surged up in his heart. Despite this, Wang Guangning's expression was already sorted out when he raised his head. The knife which had been used to peel the apple glinted in front of Zhang Lingyi. "I am the *gong*!"

Zhang Lingyi: "....."

*A wise man would submit to the circumstances*³. Right now, it was imperative that he remained firmly silent!

[3] : (idiom) Only an outstanding talent can recognize current trends.

Zhang Lingyi's injury was indeed not too serious, so he was discharged the very next day. However, Huidi International still gave him two days off.

On the other hand, Wang Guangning needed to continue going to work as per usual. Hence, Zhang Lingyi stayed in the house alone, growing mushrooms. At last, he became so bored that he picked up his phone and messaged Wang Guangning.

Shou shou, what are you doing?

That's right, after coming back from the hospital, Zhang Lingyi had started using '*shou shou*' again to address Wang Guangning.

Half an hour later, Wang Guangning replied to the message.

In a conference.

Zhang Lingyi quickly responded.

How long will it run for?

Two hours later.

Just finished.

Zhang Lingyi continued to message him.

Your conferences take too long~!

Three hours later.

If you keep harassing me, I will blacklist your number.

Tears streamed down Zhang Lingyi's face. He silently put away his phone then continued growing mushrooms.



At seven o'clock in the evening, Wang Guangning returned home while carrying a pile of vegetables and fresh meat. Zhang Lingyi had already become so bored that he was now slumbering in his room.

Wang Guangning cracked open the door of Zhang Lingyi's room. Through the narrow slit, he glimpsed the other man sleeping. Wang Guangning then went and shrugged off his coat before rolling up his sleeves. He walked into the kitchen and prepared to put his skills into effect.

Zhang Lingyi hadn't been sleeping very deeply. In his doze, he even had a nightmare. He dreamed that his house blew up.

The scene was just like a Hollywood disaster blockbuster, particularly bloody!

Hence, Zhang Lingyi was frightened awake.

It was truly too terrifying!

Zhang Lingyi brushed off a few drops of sweat. Then he glanced at the time: it was already past eight o'clock. *Shou shou should have returned home by now, right?*

While thinking this, Zhang Lingyi opened his door. He was faced with the ominous sounds of pots and pans colliding.

Zhang Lingyi's eyelid twitched. He rushed into the kitchen and saw Wang Guangning clumsily holding a lid in one hand, and a spatula in the other. The lid was placed in front of his body like a shield. The pot before Wang Guangning was filled with yellow and white lumps which were currently spurting smoke. Zhang Lingyi gauged that it was probably tofu or something similar.

Zhang Lingyi coughed. He felt that it would be rude to barge over and halt the other man, so he could only use his voice instead. "*Shou shou*, what are you.....doing?"

Wang Guangning had just been feeling quite troubled⁴, so he stiffened upon suddenly hearing Zhang Lingyi's voice. The tips of his ears reddened, and he turned around resentfully. "Cooking dinner! Isn't it obvious?"

[4] : lit. beaten head and scorched brow (idiom); beaten black and blue; fig. in trouble; in terrible shape; hard pressed; overwrought.

Zhang Lingyi was speechless.

Ah, shou shou's cooking skills have indeed not changed along with the passing of time!

Zhang Lingyi helplessly gestured with a hand. "What are you cooking right now?"

Wang Guangning's lips curled up, "Tofu with crab roe. Is it hard to tell?"

"Of course not. I knew it from a glance," Zhang Lingyi flattered enthusiastically. "I've never seen a tofu with crab roe that looks so much like tofu with crab roe."

Wang Guangning: "....."

Zhang Lingyi also realised that his words seemed conspicuously exaggerated. He laughed, then said, "Uh, *shou shou*, how about I cook instead?"

Wang Guangning glanced at his arm. "Weren't you told that you couldn't do anything too arduous?"

Zhang Lingyi shook his arm. "It shouldn't be a problem if I'm just cooking a meal."

He was wearing a short-sleeved shirt, so the large swollen bruise on his left arm could be seen.

Wang Guangning's eyes warmed. "How about I cook, and you guide me?"

Zhang Lingyi considered it for a moment, then said, “That works too.”

Hence, Wang Guangning returned to his cooking. The truth was, he was slightly angry. Zhang Lingyi had once made this tofu with crab roe dish for him to eat, and he had he had tried to make it himself several times when he was in Taiwan. However, reality proved that he did not possess any talent in cooking. No matter how many times Wang Guangning attempted it, the end result was always either a scorched lump or a pile of paste.

Thereupon, Zhang Lingyi stood next to Wang Guangning and began giving him directions. “Beat the salted egg yolks, *en*, beat it. Add water, then stir it until the egg yolks become thick.”

“Gently put in the tofu, be careful.....”

“Quickly use the spatula to flip the tofu, otherwise the base will become burnt. Quickly.....”

Wang Guangning was originally quite nervous. Once he heard Zhang Lingyi’s words, he became even more flustered and everything (bar the pot) convulsed.

“I am flipping, stop being so noisy!” said Wang Guangning in irritation.

Zhang Lingyi stared at the tofu which was on the verge of becoming burnt, and shook his head helplessly. He walked forwards and stood behind Wang Guangning. His right hand bypassed Wang Guangning’s waist and locked onto the other man’s wrist. Zhang Lingyi nimbly flipped the tofu a few times, then said, “Look, this is how you flip it.”

When Zhang Lingyi shifted close behind him, Wang Guangning’s entire body had stiffened. Afterwards, he had been entirely unable to exercise control over his own movements until Zhang Lingyi spoke next to his ear. The warm breath sweeping past caused him to shiver.

Zhang Lingyi didn’t feel any less agitated than him. He was clearly just trying to rescue the dish, but once he grasped Wang Guangning’s hand, Zhang Lingyi realised that he didn’t want to let go at all. The person whom

he had yearned for day and night was in his embrace. He just needed to take one more step, and the other man would be his. However, this bit of distance could not be lightly crossed.

Sighing inwardly, Zhang Lingyi held Wang Guangning's hand and turned the tofu again. He kept flipping until the salted egg yolks had firmly wrapped around the tofu. Then he turned off the fire and transferred everything to a plate.

"Done." No matter how reluctant he was, Zhang Lingyi still loosened the hand which was gripping Wang Guangning's wrist. Smiling, he said, "Once my injury heals, let me take care of the cooking."

He paused, then continued. "In any case, as long as you're willing, I will cook for you forever."

For a split second, Wang Guangning almost suspected that Zhang Lingyi liked him too, just like how he liked Zhang Lingyi.

However, at the moment when he wanted to close in a step, the memory of Luo Zihui grasping Zhang Lingyi's arm appeared in his mind, preventing Wang Guangning from continuing down that train of thought.

Don't act blindly without thinking!

Wang Guangning told himself.

With Zhang Lingyi's assistance, Wang Guangning finally (through much banging and clanging) managed to finish cooking two dishes. He filled a bowl with rice for Zhang Lingyi, then they both sat down at the table.

Zhang Lingyi had a very good appetite, and was not like a patient in the least. He ate with gusto, and grinned while saying, "*Shou shou's* culinary skills have improved greatly. I truly have great luck in chancing upon fine food!"

Can you be any more brown-nosed⁵?!

[5] : lit. dog leg; fig. to kiss up to/falsely flatter/boot-lick etc.

Wang Guangning swept a disdainful glance over Zhang Lingyi's leg. He felt as if there was an illusion of Zhang Lingyi's legs becoming the furry counterpart of a certain animal.

He ate a few mouthfuls of rice, then suddenly thought of something. "Oh, right. Zhang Lingyi, David called me today."

"Why would David call you?" Zhang Lingyi didn't understand, "Could it be that he still wants to accept his offer?"

This wasn't impossible. After all, even though the excuse that Wang Guangning used to reject Huidi was frustrating, it still didn't smother his genuine talent. David was a very picky person, but at the same time, he was also really fond of capable individuals. It was rare for him to meet someone who was so pleasing to his eye. Therefore, it was normal that David wanted to recruit Wang Guangning.

"No, he invited me to attend your company's anniversary banquet." There was another sentence that Wang Guangning didn't mention. On the phone, David had said that this was a chance which had been created for Wang Guangning and his beloved.

At the anniversary celebrations of a large company, a few outstanding people in the same industry would often be invited. Even if they were a competitor, they wouldn't be excluded. After all, the industry was quite small so if a relationship was established, it was likely that a cooperation would form one day.

Zhang Lingyi recalled that when he hadn't yet entered Huidi International, Fumaokaisi's big boss, *Lao Zhou*, seemed to have been invited to one of the anniversary celebrations. Now, Wang Guangning was the representative of Fumaokaisi's southern China branch. David extending an invitation to him was expected. Hence, Zhang Lingyi didn't add anything else and asked, "Then are you going?"

Wang Guangning swallowed a bite of the tofu with crab roe, then replied,
“Course I’m going!”

These business terms were confusing. (ㄥ ㄥ) If anything sounds odd to you,
feel free to point it out and send me a better suggestion ~

Also, Happy (late) Mid-Autumn Festival! Did anyone eat mooncakes?

Here’s a piece I started a while ago and finally managed to finish ~ TT ^
TT Wang Dafa, this one humbly apologises for drawing you oddly. (_ _)

translator: k i a i

ABG30D; 040

040

“The one with more abdominal muscles overpowers the one with less”



Zhang Lingyi rested for two days. During these two days, Wang Guangning cooked. Even though the end result of his cooking did not really look like anything, Zhang Lingyi ate it, feeling completely satisfied.

On the third day, Zhang Lingyi finally returned to work at Huidi International. As expected, Xia Yingchu handed him a plan for the anniversary banquet and list of the participants when he arrived. Surprisingly, Wang Guangning's name was included under those who had been invited as honoured guests.

Zhang Lingyi promptly approved it, then sent a text message to Wang Guangning: **Shou shou, I'll make dinner tonight. What do you want to eat?**

Wang Guangning's response came quickly: **The more expensive, the better! P.S. Don't bother me during work hours, I'm a person who has a career.**

Zhang Lingyi: ! ! ! ! !

Then do I appear like someone who has nothing to do, and just idles around? I'm working and still trying to find time to text; in the end, who exactly do you think it's for?

Zhang Lingyi felt very aggrieved.

Although Wang Guangning asked Zhang Lingyi not to bother him during working hours, he finished work and went home early that day. When he arrived, Zhang Lingyi unexpectedly still had not returned.

Wang Guangning pursed his lips in dissatisfaction. Taking out the iPad, he sat in the living room and watched TV while sorting through his emails.

Just as he was absorbed in handling those emails, the home phone suddenly rang.

The phone was placed next to the sofa, so Wang Guangning casually picked it up. “Hello?”

“Lingyi, mom just heard that you were in a car accident. Are you alright?” The female voice in the phone was very anxious.

Zhang Lingyi’s mother?

Wang Guangning couldn’t help but feel somewhat nervous, “Sorry, auntie, Zhang Lingyi hasn’t returned yet. I’m his new housemate, Wang Guangning.”

It was silent for a moment on the other side of the phone, before she asked suspiciously, “What new housemate?”

Wang Guangning replied, “Zhang Lingyi’s previous housemate moved away. I’m a new tenant who just moved in.....”

He was roughly interrupted by the voice on the other side of the phone. “What nonsense are you spouting? When did we put our house up for rent?”

Wang Guangning stared blankly. “Auntie, I really am a tenant.....”

“Since when did our family need to rent out our house?” Zhang Lingyi’s mother spoke in a very unkind manner. “Who exactly are you? Why are you in my house?”

Wang Guangning was interrogated to the point of not knowing what to do¹. Just as he wasn’t sure how to respond, Zhang Jiuxing² returned.

[1] : at one's wits' end; embarrassed and at a complete loss.

[2] : jiu xing means saviour/knight in shining armour ~

“Zhang Lingyi, your mother’s on the phone. Quickly come and explain, why does your mother not believe that I’m a tenant?” Wang Guangning said to Zhang Lingyi.

Zhang Lingyi, who was carrying large bags of fresh ingredients in both hands became alarmed upon hearing Wang Guangning’s words. He threw down the bags and rushed over. Grabbing the phone, he said, “Hey, mom, it’s me!”

.....

“Yes, yes. He didn’t lie to you, I rented out a room.....”

“Hehe, I’m making some pocket money~!”

“Hey, I’ll find another time to explain this matter to you.....”

“Uh...there’s been no sign of success yet³, don’t speak nonsense.....”

[3] : literally means ‘there is not even the first stroke of the character eight’; things have not even begun to take shape.

Zhang Lingyi talked on the phone while waving a hand at Wang Guangning, hinting for him to go somewhere else.

Wang Guangning was a person who paid great attention to personal privacy; since Zhang Lingyi did not want him to listen, he wouldn’t try to stay. He turned and headed back to his room.

However, this did not mean that he had not heard anything at all.

If it really was as Zhang Lingyi said, then it was impossible for his mother not to know that he had previously rented out a room.

Therefore, Zhang Lingyi's family simply had not rented out their rooms before.

In fact, even if one just randomly thought about it, something fishy could be detected within such a seemingly uncomplicated argument. Zhang Lingyi's family basically did not lack money; furthermore, his position at work was not bad. After graduation, when many people were renting out their house, he already had his own apartment. How could he have had any financial pressure.

Hence, Zhang Linyi saying that their house was being rented out was just to convince Wang Guangning to move in.

But why would he do this?

Was it just to help out a friend? Or was there another reason?

Wang Guangning sat blankly on the edge of his bed.

He was unable to control the direction that his thoughts were heading towards; yet, his fear of what could be lost also caused him to have no choice except forcibly curbing his imagination from running wild.

This kind of state of mind where he felt both anticipation and fear of being hurt made Wang Guangning perplexed and uneasy.

He didn't know how much time had passed. It was only when his phone rang that wang Guangning abruptly returned to his senses. Picking it up, he realised it was Sun Siyang.

"Fatty Sun, what is it?" Wang Guangning walked over to the bay window. Sitting down, he lifted a foot and placed it on the window ledge while the other stayed on the ground. It was casual and cosy.

"Our school's sixty year anniversary is next month. Do you want to go back and visit?" Sun Siyang asked.

Wang Guangning thought about it for a moment. "Can I not go?"

After all, that year, he had left F University without having said a word to anyone. If he went back this time and met someone he knew, he was afraid that it wouldn't be easy to explain.

“You dare!” Sun Siyang said angrily, “I have already released the news of your return. Everyone has unanimously voted to give you one chance to apologise if invite us out for a meal. If you dare to not show up, we might even find someone to chase and kill you near your company!”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Sun Siyang, you big mouth!

“Alright, then ask everyone to be merciful⁴ and not order dishes that are too expensive when that time comes. ” Wang Guangning sighed.

[4] : lit. start off leniently; please do not be too strict (to me).

“How is that possible?” Upon hearing that Wang Guangning agreed to go, Sun Siyang's voice instantly became cheerful. “We've already opened our menus.”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Hanging up, he stared out the window. Dusk was gathering, and the neon lights were like scattered flowers.

There was a knock on his door, then Zhang Lingyi pushed it open. His face was revealed through the crack. “*Shou shou*, I've finished cooking dinner. Come out and eat!”

Wang Guangning suddenly woke with a start from his thoughts. He replied blankly, “Oh.”

Sure enough, Zhang Lingyi had prepared a table of expensive dishes according to Wang Guangning's instructions.

There were hairy crabs steamed in broth, Jinsha poplar mushrooms, curry with baked prawns, and a pot of yam and pork ribs soup.

Wang Guangning swept a glance over the table and immediately salivated. In a flash, he tossed his tangled thoughts from before to Alishan⁵.

[5] : A mountain range in Taiwan, which feature cloud-ringed peaks and green valleys.

“Is it delicious?” Zhang Lingyi looked expectantly at wang Guangning.

“Delicious⁶!” Without a care for image, Wang Guangning ate heartily while patting Zhang Lingyi’s shoulder with a greasy paw. “Xiao Zhang-zi⁷, you really are too wise and kind⁸!”

Zhang Lingyi peered at the paw print marks on his shoulder from the corner of his eye. It was somewhat creased, but he felt very contented inside. “It’s good that you know I’m wise and kind. In the future, when you’re searching for a husband, find someone like me!”

[6] : Here, (háo) means howl/bawl. The pingyin is similar to the (hǎo) in , which means delicious.

[7] : Basically, WGN is calling ZLY ‘Eunuch Zhang’ since eunuchs were referred to as (family name) .

[8] : (of a wife) wise and kind; perfect in her traditional roles.

Wang Guangning raised his head and pushed out his chest, a hairy crab leg dangling out of his mouth. “Get lost! *Laozi* is the *gong*!”

Zhang Lingyi stared pointedly at Wang Guangning’s abdomen. He said coolly, “Ah, *shou shou*, how many abdominal muscles have you trained in the past four years?”

Zhang Youzhi⁹, you’re really too much. Do you think that training abdominal muscles is the same as levelling? That you can just keep adding them one by one?

[9] : yòu zhì means childish.

However, he had to admit that Zhang Lingyi's attack was very accurate. The amount of abdominal muscles he had was Wang Guangning's eternal sorrow.

Hence, Wang Guangning's expression became distorted. He ferociously flung back his head and riposted, "It's the quality that matters, not the quantity. Even though I only have a four-pack, each muscle is significant. They're firm and powerful, and if you feel it, they're top quality. They're practically the fighter aircraft amongst all other abdominal muscles. Although you have a six-pack, they're definitely unusually high in fat content. They probably feel very soft and will easily fuse together!"

After speaking, Wang Guangning still didn't feel satisfied, so he shifted the curry and baked prawns dish as well as the hairy crabs in front of himself. He continued imperiously, "In order to prevent your six-pack from becoming just one, you should eat less!"

Zhang Lingyi: "....."

Zhang Youzhi said, "You said that your abdominal muscles have a high quality feeling. Words alone are no proof, let me touch them!"

As he spoke, Zhang Lingyi leaned over and stroked Wang Guangning's abdomen.

His actions were sudden, so Wang Guangning was unable to avoid it in time and was directly touched.

And then.....

"*Fuck.....ahaha.....*" Wang Guangning shouted, unable to control the ladle full of curry prawn in his hand as it splashed forward—

Hitting Zhang Lingyi right in the face.

En, Wang Aojiao¹⁰ had once said this—he was ticklish.

[10] : lit. proud and loveable. Refers to people who usually carry a tough and arrogant attitude, but will stick shyly to one's side under certain conditions.

The red prawns slid down Zhang Lingyi's face, leaving behind a viscous yellow trail. *Don't look too pleasing to the eye!*

Wang Guangning couldn't prevent a 'pfft' sound from escaping him.

This was why it was said that tsundere *shous* all had no conscience!

Zhang Lingyi's eyes narrowed slightly.

Wang Guangning detected the dangerous atmosphere and quickly stopped laughing. "Zhang Lingyi, you brought that onto yourself. I didn't purposely....."

"Who's blaming you? I will take you down with me¹¹!" Zhang Lingyi yelled then threw himself over.

[11] : to end in mutual destruction.

Fortunately, Wang Guangning was already prepared. He immediately jumped up and rushed out of the dining room. Zhang Lingyi chased after him. Wang Guangning had just run near the sofa in the living room, so Zhang Lingyi pounced over like a fierce tiger.

His technique was not bad, and he landed head on.

As a result, Wang Guangning was pressed down onto the large sofa by Zhang Lingyi.

"Hehehe!" Zhang Lingyi crowed.

Wang Guangning: "Quickly let go of *laozi*!"

Zhang Lingyi: "Go on, yell. Keep yelling. Even if you yell until your throat is hoarse¹², no one will care."

[12] : this phrase can have several meanings. It's basically a play on words— (say/shout) (lit. broken throat/ fig. until throat is hoarse)

Actually, this should be an ambiguous or even slightly romantic moment; however, during such a moment, Wang Guangning's mind decided to think of a joke he had heard of a long time ago instead. Hence.....

Wang Guangning: "Broken throat!"

Zhang Lingyi: "....."

Wang Guangning: "Didn't you tell me to shout 'broken throat'?"

Zhang Lingyi: =|||

"I've already said that shouting 'broken throat' won't help!" Zhang Lingyi leaned his own face next to Wang Guangning's cheek. He said in a low voice, "Come. Lick the curry clean for *ben shao*¹³, and *ben shao* will let you off the hook!"

[13] : this young master.

He really was completely and utterly infuriating!

Hence, Wang Guangning's cranial nerves stretched taut then snapped. He lifted his mouth up and—

Kissed Zhang Lingyi deeply, emotions overflowing?

That was impossible. In fact, Wang Guangning swiftly nipped Zhang Lingyi with lightning speed.

"Fuckfuckfuck!" Zhang Lingyi cried out in pain and rolled off the sofa.

There were obvious indents on his left cheek from Wang Guangning's teeth. Eyes full of tears, Zhang Lingyi pointed at the other man. "*Shou shou*, why is your heart so fierce? Quickly check if I've been disfigured!"

“That won’t happen~!” Wang Guangning dusted his collar then lightly sent over a knife. “Ugly people don’t have any beauty that can be disfigured!”

Zhang Lingyi: “.....”

“Hmph!” Although Zhang Lingyi wanted to fight to death with Wang Guangning, he was incapable of actually setting a hand on the other. That’s why, loyal dog *gongs* were liable to suffer losses, what with their tendency to be tender-hearted and doting!

In the end, he could only angrily head back to his room and look in the mirror.



Hence, on Zhang Lingyi’s second day of returning to work, everyone saw a band-aid stuck on his left cheek. For their Manager Zhang who valued his appearance as if it were his life, this simply should be an unimaginable matter, alright?

Therefore, everyone was shocked and astonished in succession.

“Manager Zhang, what happened to your face?”

Zhang Lingyi was expressionless. “I was bitten by a mosquito.”

“Mosquitoes can leave such a large bite?”

Zhang Lingyi continued being expressionless. “No, the mosquito bit the same area multiple times.”

“Uh, Manager Zhang is so indulgent towards mosquitoes?”

Zhang Lingyi preserved in being expressionless. “I was asleep, and didn’t realise.”

“Ah, the mosquito bit your face again and again. Manager, didn’t you wake up when it kept returning to bite you?” *Are you a pig?!*

“Can’t I be a deep sleeper?” Zhang Lingyi finally became angry¹⁴. “Why are you asking so many questions, quickly go back to work!”

[14] : to fly into a rage out of humiliation; to be ashamed into anger.

/teaser for the next chapter/

XYC: >///< WGN, I like you too~

WGN: OAO ?!!

ZLY: *Shou shou*, you better explain this properly. Or else, this time, you’ll really be shouting until your throat is hoarse!

translator: k i a i

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[Previous chapters have been done beautifully [here](#).]

Huidi [lit. shining emperor] International's anniversary celebration had always been a grand event in the industry. Apart from company staff, a large number of well-known industry insiders would be invited to their dinner event. To anyone in the industry, this was undoubtedly a networking opportunity.

This was especially so this year — Huidi International went all out with invitations to many new stars of the industry, including one to the marketing manager of the southern China (SC) branch of their old adversary, Fumaokaisi [lit. rich in fortune; victorious in thought] — Wang Guangning.

Although Wang Guangning's position was that of marketing manager, since Fumaokaisi SC didn't have a chief, and old Zhou often returned to the Taiwan headquarters, Wang Guangning was without a doubt the *de facto* representative of Fumaokaisi SC.

Added to that was his tall and imposing elegance, and excellent temperament — he was simply the absolute focal point of the anniversary dinner.

Under the resplendent lighting of the banquet hall, Wang Guangning was dressed meticulously in a western suit, raising a glass of light champagne, and holding a perfect smile as he gently clinked glasses with other guests.

For him, this dinner was not as simple as a networking meal. Huidi International's biggest distributor and DM China's distributor had also come. Even as he dealt with them, he also made overtures to smaller distributors.

Being well-spoken with an ideal demeanour, he won over quite a few industry veterans. Everyone sighed over how Fumaokaisi was able to hire someone of Wang Guangning's character — to conquer the mainland would not be difficult to imagine with him.

And to the staff of Huidi International, this evening was most certainly a marvellous night for gossip!

The news of Wang Guangning giving up a job opportunity with Huidi International for the sake of Xia Yingchu had been spreading like wildfire throughout the company. Although David, out of professional ethics, had ordered company staff not to leak the news that Wang Guangning had come for an interview, this didn't stop everyone from looking forward to a good show tonight!

If Wang Guangning really liked Xia Yingchu that much, how could he miss out on the opportunity that this night presented!

Xia Yingchu had also made a sizeable investment for tonight, wearing a flowing black evening gown that revealed one beautiful shoulder and just a touch of cleavage. She was evidently mysterious yet alluring, with her hair loosely put up and adorned with a crystal-studded crown — the look was elegant with a youthful flavour.

It wouldn't have been an exaggeration to describe her as the queen of beauties.

Ever since Xia Yingchu caught wind of Wang Guangning's love and devotion for her, she had been waiting for him to come and find her (she didn't make the first move mainly because she didn't have Wang Guangning's contact details). But just as she was getting all crazy in her anxiety while waiting endlessly for his confession, David went and invited Wang Guangning to their company's anniversary dinner.

This huge opportunity must not be wasted!

And so, Xia Yingchu in her beautiful get-up went up and down the banquet hall; a few times, she even brushed past Wang Guangning intentionally.

Quite a few gentlemen had already come to chat her up, but Wang Guangning still did not make a move.

Does it really have to be her who takes the initiative?

Xia Yingchu was very unsatisfied with Wang Guangning's style of courtship — he was actually putting on airs!

“Hey, Ning.” David extended his right hand to Wang Guangning for a handshake. Even though he hadn't been able to enlist Wang Guangning, the failure didn't stop David from admiring him.

“Hey, David.” Wang Guangning raised his glass and toasted David. “Thank you for giving me the opportunity to join the anniversary dinner. You've made it a great success!” Wang Guangning's word of congratulations was sincere.

“Oh, do you only want to thank me for this?” David gave a knowing smile. He glanced at Xia Yingchu, who once again was walking past — “Aren't you going to invite Xia Yingchu for a dance?”

Wang Guangning: “???”

Although he didn't know why David wanted him to dance with Xia Yingchu, Wang Guangning did feel as though he had played a trick on David previously, and felt guilty because of that. So, once he heard David say this, he followed along and said, “That's OK, then I'll ask her for a dance.”

It must be said that the staff of Huidi International was richly attired and heavily perfumed that night, and much more dressed up than usual; they mingled busily and chatted up a storm with the crowd, displaying the expected cultivation and demeanour of the staff of a big company. But the truth was that they were all distracted — as they socialized, they were monitoring what was going on with Xia Yingchu and Wang Guangning.

No kidding — this was the gossip of the year at Huidi International. How could anyone miss out on it?

But in the end, after they waited the whole night, Wang Guangning and Xia Yingchu hadn't even spoken more than a few sentences to each other, and each encounter was at Xia Yingchu's initiative.

What's going on? Didn't Wang Guangning fall in love at first sight with Xia Yingchu?

Just as the staff were silently scolding the same line, "Who the heck let out this fake news," Wang Guangning finally made a move.

He strode steadily to Xia Yingchu and asked her for a dance with a most polite posture — Xia Yingchu bashfully placed her hand in his.

Waves of commotion burst out from the Huidi staff.

The prelude of the dance song rose up at that moment.

Wang Guangning smiled as he held Xia Yingchu and began to dance gracefully.

Huidi's staff continued to comment, and all sighed over how Wang Guangning really did have intentions toward Xia Yingchu — Xia Yingchu was so lucky.

And in a corner of the venue, Huidi International's HR manager Zhang Lingyu was holding the stem of a wine glass, and bearing an expression that was as dark as charcoal.

A few female guests wanted to chat him up, but was scared far, far away by his expression.

The surrounding hubbub about Wang Guangning and Xia Yingchu flowed into Zhang Lingyu's ears incessantly.

Endless idioms involving "perfect match" and "genius and beauty" ... these people didn't usually exhibit such literary gifts?

Zhang Lingyu was muttering darkly to himself — how could Xia Yingchu match up to *Shoushou*!

In this world, only I match up to *Shoushou*!

But then why did Wang Guangning ask Xia Yingchu for a dance?

Actually, when the news broke out at the company that Wang Guangning fell in love at first sight with Xia Yingchu, he didn't take it to heart. He never thought that Xia Yingchu was Wang Guangning's type, and based on how Wang Guangning had confessed to Yu Haining in public, if he really liked Xia Yingchu, he wouldn't have delayed his move.

But seeing Wang Guangning dress so coquettishly and outstandingly on this night, his heart was a little gloomy. This gloom was like the bad mood that descended when something dear to you that you wanted to belong only to you was forcibly taken away to be admired by everyone else.

What's more, he knew that everyone in Huidi International was just waiting for more to gossip about!

But because Wang Guangning was an independent person, with his own life and career, even though he could feel his stomach churning, he would definitely not interfere.

Xia Yingchu was really pretty tonight. Although Zhang Lingyu had his eye on Wang Guangning most of the time, he knew that no other woman present in that place could overshadow Xia Yingchu.

But since Wang Guangning hadn't made a move the whole night, this did give him a lot of comfort!

Who could have known that before his nerves could settle properly, he actually saw Wang Guangning walk toward Xia Yingchu, take her hand, and hold her waist!

In that moment, Zhang Lingyu could no longer be calm.

He realized belatedly — Wang Guangning had initially been attracted by Yu Haining, so this proved that he actually liked beautiful women. So, how could it be impossible for him to like Xia Yingchu?

Xia Yingchu's smile was really sweet; the wine that went down Zhang Lingyu's throat was bitter.

Finally, the song ended. But the overly excited emcee for the night rushed to Wang Guangning and pulled him up the stage.

Wang Guangning: "....."

Emcee: "Hurry, everyone, see here, let me introduce to you, standing here onstage right now, it's Fumaokaisi SC's marketing manager, Mr. Wang Guangning. I believe everyone here has more or less heard of him — he's presently the star that has the industry's attention, and of course, the diamond bachelor that has the most female attention."

Wang Guangning was not a coy person. Since he had already been pulled onstage, he might as well give everyone a wave and did so naturally.

Applause sounded from the crowd, mixed with some cheers.

The emcee looked at Wang Guangning: "Mr. Wang, do you know the reason why I got you up here?"

Wang Guangning had a premonition, but continued to smile and shook his head.

The emcee raised his brows, and threw out to the audience: "I believe our Huidi colleagues have all heard a certain piece of gossip"

A sudden commotion broke out amongst the crowd!

"Mr. Wang, we've heard that you fell in love at first sight with one of our staff!" The emcee gave a pout as he finished saying this, which made Wang Guangning want to stuff an egg into that mouth.

Wang Guangning sought Zhang Lingyu out with his peripheral vision while dealing with the emcee: "It wasn't love at first sight" In fact, it was hate at first sight!

The emcee widened his eyes: "Could it be love that came with time?"

Wang Guangning finally spotted Zhang Lingyu standing in a poorly lit corner. He collected himself and said with a smile, “That can be considered the case.”

The commotion rose up again — love that came with time; doesn’t that imply that the story of Wang Guangning and Xia Yingchu knowing each other from a long time ago was actually true?

The emcee also understood it like this, and didn’t pursue the point, but asked another question: “So, Mr. Wang, I’m going to represent all of Huidi’s staff by asking you a very important question — may I know if the person you like is in the HR department?”

Well, of course, and he’s the boss of your HR department!

Wang Guangning was a little curious as to why the emcee asked this question, but nevertheless, he nodded: “Yes.”

And so the whole place boiled over in excitement. Xia Yingchu was blushing a deep red, feeling all shy and timid.

Zhang Lingyu finally couldn’t take it anymore. He set down his wine glass and left the venue dejectedly.

Wang Guangning witnessed Zhang Lingyu leave all of a sudden. He didn’t know what was going on, and wanted to follow, but was held back by the emcee.

He felt stuffed up with impatience, but his face had to bear an appropriate smile.

“Then, Mr. Wang, please answer my final question.” At last, the emcee asked the most anticipated question of the night: “May I know whether the surname of the person you like is Xia?”

Surname Xia?

In Wang Guangning’s mind, up popped names such as Xia Yuhe [mother of the princess played by Ruby Lin Xinru in *My Fair Princess*; Lin also played

the role of the mother] and Xia Ziwei [Lin's character; so the joke here is that these women look the same — it doesn't matter to WGN whomever this Xia is], but not the name of the one he just danced with. So, he felt that the emcee was being really ridiculous, and answered in bewilderment: "No."

Xia Yingchu's fragile [lit. glass] heart broke into a million pieces.

Huidi International's staff all froze. What the heck was this?

"I'm sorry, but I have something to attend to, so I'll have to leave for a while." Wang Guangning finally couldn't bear it anymore. He nodded to the host apologetically and rushed down the stage.

Five minutes later, everyone came back to their senses and the discussion about Wang Guangning and his secret lover rose to a fever pitch once more.

Wang Guangning clearly admitted that the person he liked was in the HR department. In the HR department, apart from the young and beautiful Xia Yingchu, there were only auntie-level people or tomboy types. There just wasn't a suitable match.

Unless Wang Guangning liked the auntie or tomboy type?

Everyone: "= ="

This guy's taste was a bit over the top!

A little scene by the author

Wang Guangning: Sorry, Xia Yuhe, I don't like you!

Xia Yingchu: = = I am called Xia Yingchu.

Wang Guangning: Oh, beg your pardon, Xia Ziwei.

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When Wang Guangning exited the banquet hall, there was no trace of Zhang Lingyu.

So, Wang Guangning made a beeline for the main doors of the banquet hall's hotel. Outside the doors was a busy road, but still, there was no trace of Zhang Lingyu.

Wang Guangning look hither and thither by the roadside, but still couldn't find a trace of Zhang Lingyu. Helpless, he could only pull out his phone to call him.

It took quite sometime before the call was picked up.

"Hello." Zhang Lingyu sounded a little downcast.

"Why did you leave halfway? The banquet isn't over yet!"

"So what?" Zhang Lingyu's tone revealed a deep hopelessness. "I don't have pretty girls throwing themselves into my arms."

So Zhang Lingyu ran off because he was jealous that he has a girl? Wang Guangning was extremely pissed off — was that Xia Yuhe worth getting jealous over? (Author: Handsomest guy in school, I'm begging you, her name is Xia Yingchu!)

"Anyway, you already have the beauty in your arms, what are you caring about me for?" Zhang Lingyu's tone was full of sourness.

What kind of twisted logic was this?

Wang Guangning was furious all of a sudden. That year, when you got your girl, *Laozi* [lit. father, but referring to oneself in jest or anger] even gave you his blessing face-to-face. What kind of attitude are you giving me now!

Forget it, let's not follow his train of thought.

"Where are you now?" Wang Guangning asked.

"At Jianse [lit. construction] Road Pedestrian Mall." Zhang Lingyu mumbled. "Why are you asking this? Can you bear to abandon your delicate girl?"

Why does this tone sound like jealousy?

So, is he jealous that he has a girl or jealous that a girl has him?

Wang Guangning felt [lit. ideographic emoticon but represents anything from annoyance, shock, embarrassment, awkwardness, and scorn to a response to silliness] as he hung up the phone. Could it be that Zhang Lingyu was entering andropause?

Otherwise, why did he keep harping on the same thing?

Jianse Road Pedestrian Mall wasn't far from the hotel. Wang Guangning rushed there and saw Zhang Lingyu standing at the entrance, smoking a cigarette under a streetlight.

The pedestrian mall was brightly lit and bustling with people.

The crowd was dressed very casually, and quite a few people were just wearing slippers.

The tastefully and formally dressed Zhang Lingyu stood out in stark contrast from this background and appeared exceptional.

And also appeared exceptionally lonely.

Standing alone under the streetlight, without a single expression on his face, with a cigarette in hand, the smoke curling upwards slowly.

So beautiful, and so alone.

Wang Guangning had an inexpressible feeling in his heart.

The Zhang Lingyu that he usually saw was annoyingly confident, or an irrepressible dummy.

He had never seen him being this desolate.

“Hey.” Wang Guangning went over, and aggressively gave his short hair a rub.

Zhang Lingyu probably hadn’t expected Wang Guangning to appear, and stared at him unbelievably: “*Shoushou*.”

Wang Guangning gave the cigarette in his hand a look and said “Thought you said you were going to quit?”

Zhang Lingyu awkwardly tried to hide the cigarette behind his back, then felt that this action was just self-deception, so he simply raised it and gave a long pull. Pretending to be strong, he said: “Quitting smoking requires a process.”

Wang Guangning rolled his eyes.

Zhang Lingyu then said: “Why did you come out? Don’t you have to confess to Xia Yingchu?”

When Wang Guangning admitted onstage that the person he liked was in the HR department, Zhang Lingyu thought he once again saw that scene of Wang Guangning confessing to Yu Haining on the dance stage.

Just that at that time, he had been scornful, and only thinking of ways to make a swift counterattack.

But this time, he was so upset that he couldn’t stay any longer.

He was fearful of hearing Wang Guangning saying that he had someone he liked.

Afraid to hear of any news that would mean there was no longer any possibility between them.

Afraid that he would no longer have the right, in the guise of a friend, to do anything that might cross the boundary of friendship.

As long as he left the scene, no matter what happened, he could still pretend that he didn't know.

And as he left the venue, he smoothly pulled out a cigarette —

At such a time, it was always good to have something to do.

“When did I ever say I wanted to confess to Xia Yingchu?” Wang Guangning's black lines appeared = = [i.e. he was unhappy].

“I clearly just heard you say that the person you like is in the HR department.” Zhang Lingyu blinked at him. The HR department had in total Xia Yingchu ... bah, apart from Xia Yingchu, who else was presentable?

“Ah” Wang Guangning gave a light smile, with a trace of scorn, “I only said it was the HR department, but I didn't specify the name Xia Yu ... Xia Yingchu.”

“Then who ... can it be.” Zhang Lingyu belatedly realised and widened his eyes. He was absolutely certain that Wang Guangning did not know anyone else in the Huidi HR department except for him and Xia Yingchu. If it's not Xia Yingchu, then ...

This guess that was so close to the truth was evidently ridiculous, but so ridiculous that it was bewitching.

The question of gender loomed large, and had made it much more difficult for Zhang Lingyu to believe that the one Wang Guangning liked was him than to believe that the one Wang Guangning liked was Xia Yingchu.

This was also why he still hadn't dared to make that one crucial step forward.

But now the truth was close at hand.

He still harboured anxiety and hesitation and worries.

But in the face of this great temptation, Zhang Lingyu was unable to convince himself to let go of this one chance for happiness.

“Wang Guangning” Zhang Lingyu was unable to restrain himself anymore and grabbed hold of Wang Guangning’s arm, about to ask him something.

Suddenly, Wang Guangning’s eyes shone: “SpongeBob SquarePants!”

As he said this, he rushed forward. It turned out that as they walked and talked, they just passed by a row of doll claw-crane machines.

Needless to say, one of the claw-crane machines was stuffed full of violently yellow SpongeBob SquarePants dolls.

Zhang Lingyu: “.....”

Why was it that after so many years, Wang Guangning’s evil love for SpongeBob SquarePants did not change?

When Zhang Lingyu gloomily caught up, Wang Guangning was already eagerly peering at the toys in the machine.

“I’ll claw up one for you!” Zhang Lingyu said.

“That’s OK!” Wang Guangning’s tone was disapproving with a note of disdain. He hadn’t forgotten that the one before him held the record for spending 300 coins without grabbing a single doll. “I appreciate it, but don’t do it.”

“Doesn’t this imply that he can’t do it?”

What does a little *gong* abhor the most?

To be told by his little *shou* that he can’t do it!

As a dominant genuine *gong* (Zhang Youzhi [i.e. childish] conferred this title on himself), Zhang Lingyu decided to prove himself through his ability, and started to feel himself up.

Hmm, indeed, no coins.

Zhang Lingyu stared at Wang Guangning: “*Shoushou*, do you have coins?”

“How could I have coins,” Wang Guangning scorned him, “Forget it, just let it go, it’s not as though you can grab anything even if you found coins.”

This definitely added fuel to the fire. Zhang Lingyu was immediately ignited. He muttered: “I’ll go borrow one.”

Just then, a tall, thin and busty babe walked past, so Zhang Lingyu trotted out what he thought was the most enchanting and perfect smile, and went up to stop her: “I’m sorry, pretty lady, could I borrow a few coins?”

The busty babe raised her head and gave Zhang Lingyu a glance. Suddenly, her eyes shone and she enthused: “Handsome guy, it’s you, we meet again!”

Zhang Lingyu: “???”

The babe said, “Handsome guy, you’ve forgotten me. I’m Lin Zhiluo. A few years ago, you were auctioning your first kiss at Gulangyu, and I’m the one who won it!”

That nightmarish memory surfaced once more.

No way, the babe before him is that little tubby girl?

Right now, apart from her bust, there’s nothing tubby about her?

The idiom about not being able to tell what a girl will look like when she grows up — surely the change can’t be this drastic?

Zhang Lingyu fearfully watched Lin Zhiluo. That this girl tried to French kiss him cast a deep shadow in his heart. He hadn’t thought he would meet her again in this life.

Although she now had a big bust and tiny waist, Zhang Lingyu couldn't prevent recalling the brutal kiss of that year.

It was really terrible, OK?

Lin Zhiluo didn't seem to notice Zhang Lingyu's horrified expression, and smilingly said, "Handsome guy, I can give you the coins you want, but you have to give me a kiss."

Again!

Zhang Lingyu shook his head firmly.

"Just kissing the cheek is fine." Lin Zhiluo pointed to her own cheek, and waved a coin in front of Zhang Lingyu.

Zhang Lingyu was conflicted as he stared at that coin, weighed the matter over and over again, and finally decided to compromise: "It's only the cheek, OK!"

Lin Zhiluo smilingly nodded, gave the coin to Zhang Lingyu, and put her cheek forward.

Zhang Lingyu unwillingly brought his mouth closer ... and closer ...

Just as Zhang Lingyu's lips were about to press onto Lin Zhiluo's cheek, Lin Zhiluo suddenly whipped her head round, and both pairs of lips went "pia" as they bumped together once.

"Fck——" Zhang Lingyu yelled as he stepped back.

Lin Zhiluo whooped as she ran off: "I kissed Handsome Guy again!"

Zhang Lingyu looked pale as he walked back to Wang Guangning, who had already crumpled over in laughter.

"Laugh, laugh, laugh, only know how to gloat at my misfortune, instead of considering who I'm doing this for!" Zhang Lingyu forcefully wiped his own lips, doing his best to scrub away that strange feeling of terror.

When Wang Guangning had his fill of laughter, he raised his brows. Looking at that one coin in his hand, he said disapprovingly: “Based on your luck, is it enough to just ask for one coin.....”

Should need a catty of coins at least ...

As a little *shou*, how could you have such a lack of confidence in your little *gong*?

Zhang Lingyu was very dissatisfied with Wang Guangning’s attitude, and decided he definitely must demonstrate his ability to Wang Guangning through action. So, he valiantly and spiritedly strode to the claw-crane machine and dropped in the coin. Intense music started up. Zhang Lingyu calmly operated the controls, clawed up, dropped down, all in one smooth move.

Wang Guangning was dumbstruck by the proceedings. It felt as though he was watching a frog turn into a prince.

Zhang Lingyu raised up that yellow SpongeBob SquarePants doll, and triumphantly waved it in front of Wang Guangning: “*Shoushou*, your SpongeBob SquarePants.”

Wang Guangning look stupefied as he received that palm-sized toy, and still couldn’t quite believe it: “When did your skill become so good?”

Zhang Lingyu unexpectedly blushed a little, and coughed a few times to hide his embarrassment: “It’s nothing, just practice.”

Of course, he was embarrassed to say that in the past four years, every time he passed by a doll claw-crane machine, he would obsessively practice clawing up dolls. There was one time he was even laughed at by a few students.

He did this even though he knew that no matter how many dolls he clawed up, Wang Guangning who was far from home would never know, and would not come back.

But this was a memory that they shared. At a time when he couldn't see him, he could only use this method to reminisce!

And in the depths of his heart, he hoped, there would come a day when he would see him again and he would be able to take him and claw up that SpongeBob SquarePants that only he wanted.

In repeatedly doing this thing that they once did together, and in wanting to fulfil an unfulfilled desire on his behalf — in this way, the sweetness and sadness of the past slowly gave way to the undeniable hope that was truly in his heart.

Like him, want him!

The four years' worth of countless times he spent alone at street corners clawing up dolls — the memories surfaced and receded, and finally came together in the face before him.

Wang Guangning slightly tilted his head down, looking at that SpongeBob SquarePants in his hand. He had a light smile on his face, and unconsciously looked breathtaking.

“Thank you.” Wang Guangning raised his head, and his eyes shone like the stars.

Zhang Lingyu could no longer hold back, and took a step forward, grabbed Wang Guangning by the waist, and firmly kissed him.

It was like having endured a hot and humid summer, with endless rain and dark and heavy clouds hanging over oppressively for the longest time — before finally a thunderbolt cracked open the sky, and the lightning was bright enough to light up the whole world, shocking and soul-stirring.

Wang Guangning's eyes shot wide open.

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It was soft. It was electric. It made the heart quiver slightly.

It was just like what he had desired for all these years, what moved him. It wasn't this kiss, but what the one he kissed possessed — a charm that made him sink down deeply.

Zhang Lingyu subconsciously tightened his arms around Wang Guangning's waist. In his embrace was a warmth that seemed to make him lose control. The emptiness of four years was filled up in this instant.

Chest against chest. Abs against abs *cough* abdomen against abdomen

Wishing he could fill up every last gap between the two of them.

Their lips and teeth met together so tightly, the sound of their teeth knocking could be heard.

And all this while, Wang Guangning was so stunned that he'd forgot to react.

They got deeper into the kiss, but didn't know how to take it a step further. They could only intrude upon each other's crimson tongues [lit. sensory organs].

Entangling.

Until they were breathless.

When they broke apart, both of them were blushing bright red, and out of breath.

There was no hiding this time.

With Zhang Lingyu, there was absolutely no intention of hiding anymore. From the moment Wang Guangning said that the person he liked from the HR department wasn't Xia Yingchu, his heart was already thumping loudly. And just now, Wang Guangning didn't push him away.

"Shoushou, the HR department person you like, is it" His eyes were charged with expectation, almost melting Wang Guangning into a puddle — *"..... me?"*

Wang Guangning looked at him. The crimson staining his own face gradually faded and his eyes shimmered with a gentle humour. Then he said: "I didn't say a thing."

"I don't care, this is what you mean." As Zhang Lingyu said this, he was about to pounce again.

Wang Guangyu skilfully dodged aside: "This is my business, so what you say doesn't count."

Perhaps it was because that painful memory was still clear in his mind, and the torment after that had felt endless — when the hoped-for answer was just within reach, Wang Guangning wasn't in a hurry to have it made known.

It was like a box of multi-coloured chocolate beans. You might not know what the taste of the one you pop into your mouth will be, but it will most definitely be sweet.

What's more, this time, for some reason, Wang Guangning was confident that he would be able to get the particular one that he most desired.

But Zhang Lingyu became anxious. The hand that was hugging Wang Guangning's waist exerted more force: "But, I ... like you."

"For a very, very long time." Zhang Lingyu said, as he gazed at Wang Guangning with expectation.

Yes, have liked this person, really for a very, very long time.

From the start of that contract, only this person was in his sight. Every day, he would watch him laugh, watch him get in a rage, watch him act shamelessly, watch him be helpless when it came to him.

His forgiveness and forbearance toward him, his dynamic and forward-looking attitude to life, his innate kindness, his good manners with every single person — these had all attracted him deeply.

Perhaps it was just admiration at first. Gradually, this admiration spun out of control.

He hadn't realized this at first.

Gender was the obstacle before him, making him unable to correctly discern what was causing his heart to be restless.

He was very clear that he wasn't gay, so he'd promised Luo Zihui they would date.

But everything that happened in Xiamen completely surpassed what he'd understood about the relationship between Wang Guangning and himself.

The duty he felt toward Luo Zihui and the loss he felt in his heart stopped him from pondering more deeply.

Until he found out that Wang Guangning had gone to Taiwan.

He knew that F Uni had always offered a student exchange programme, and the guidance counsellor had asked him before if he wanted to apply. But as he had supplementary courses for his field of study, if he went on exchange, those courses would be wasted. So, he'd refused the counsellor's recommendation.

Little did he realize that Wang Guangning would actually go.

The thought of not being able to see Wang Guangning for a year — the sense of loss robbed him of breath.

He knew then, whatever feelings he had, couldn't be hidden any longer.

But what happened next was completely out of his expectations. Wang Guangning broke off all contact with everyone.

His phone went unanswered. He didn't go on QQ. He didn't reply to emails. Even the number that he left with the guidance counsellor turned out to be his parents'.

No one knew how to contact him.

It was as though he'd suddenly disappeared.

For a whole month, he went around looking for ways to contact Wang Guangning. He even applied with the counsellor to join the quota for Taiwan, but the name list was already set, and it was too late.

He couldn't understand why Wang Guangning had left like this.

He'd always assumed, between the two of them, at least they could be counted as friends. Why did Wang Guangning not even say goodbye?

It was a month later, when Luo Zihui couldn't stand it anymore and proposed splitting up, that Zhang Lingyu realized that he'd neglected Luo Zihui for that long.

And it was only then that he belatedly realized, he'd fallen in love with Wang Guangning.

He'd never been in a real romantic relationship, but for someone to have affected him to this extent, he wasn't going to be so naive as to think that it was just friendship.

Even if the person [lit. he] was a man.

The first time he smoked was during that period.

Fate's cruellest joke upon love was not to have loved and lost, but to discover that the one loved was the person lost.

And so he began a painful wait, until the end of the exchange period. But after all the exchange students had returned, that person did not.

Even those who went on the exchange programme at the time did not have Wang Guangning's contact details. They only vaguely knew that Wang Guangning had stayed in Taiwan to work.

Four years wasn't that long, but in the face of such deep longing, it felt like eternity.

And the most frightening thing was, there was no way of knowing how long this kind of wait would last.

Thankfully, he'd come back.

He should leap on him and give him a sound beating.

But he found that he completely had no right to do so.

What kind of relationship did they have?

In terms of friendship, he probably didn't have as deep a relationship as Sun Sixiang had with him.

Now he absolutely refused to let go of this person no matter what.

Regardless of method, he must first have this person remain by his side.

But right now, Zhang Lingyu found, he could no longer be satisfied with the status quo, where he didn't even have the right to express any jealousy.

Confess first, then label this person as mine.

"I've really, really liked you for a very long time." Zhang Lingyu repeatedly emphasized, his eyes revealing his unease.

"Oh, really?" Wang Guangning gave a slight smile.

The long-awaited words were finally heard; the immense joy in his heart couldn't be covered up.

But still he forced on a calm expression to hide the agitation in his heart.

In fact, he really wanted to ask Zhang Lingyu, how long is the very, very long that you're talking about? Could it be longer than how long I've liked you?"

Even now he clearly remembered, how he was like a fool that year, heading out in the rain to confess his feelings, only to encounter that scene.

You couldn't have liked me longer than I've liked you.

Wang Guangning admitted to himself that he was acting impetuously.

Although it didn't sound very 'man', but having suffered for so long, it didn't seem too much to torture Zhang Lingyu just a little!

And so he lightly pushed away Zhang Lingyu: "Let's see your performance then."

"Ah?" Zhang Lingyu, "????"

"Come, *Shoushou*, eat a slice of mango." Zhang Lingyu had a fawning look on his face as he poked a slice of mango sprinkled with plum powder on Wang Guangning's mouth.

Wang Guangning was presently curled up on the sofa playing with an iPad. When the slice of ice-cool fruit touched him, he naturally opened his mouth to eat it.

"Is it tasty?" Zhang Lingyu fluttered his eyelashes at Wang Guangning.

Wang Guangning didn't spare him a look and gave a perfunctory nod: "Tasty."

It was Thai mango that had been thoroughly chilled in the fridge, then cut into small slices and doused in sweet-and-sour plum powder — it was without a doubt appetizing and thirst-quenching, ideal for the summer.

Ever since Zhang Lingyu had taken the lead and confessed to Wang Guangning, his status at home fell immeasurably. Other than frequently having to beg brazenly for the sake of taking some liberties, he often had to devise ways to curry favour with Wang Guangning, such as by preparing and offering up delicious cuisine, and stuff like that.

How heart-rending!

Zhang Lingyu had engaged in deep research about different kinds of *gong* and *shou*, and quietly determined that his current situation was manifestly that of the cheap *gong*!

This was the type of *gong* that had the least value amongst little *shou*'s!

Wang Guangning hadn't really intended to attack Zhang Lingyu, though he did truly enjoy this pampering by him. From the start, he'd only wanted to tease Zhang Lingyu for two days. But little did he know that Zhang Lingyu, this person — just as well if he hadn't confessed, but once he confessed, he was a shocking mess that was willing to abandon his principles and harass him every day.

Wang Guangning was so annoyed by his behaviour that he simply put on a lofty attitude.

That's right, when dealing with this kind of thick-skinned person — skin so thick, he was mostly made out of it — one must be noble and lofty.

Zhang Lingyu couldn't understand. He'd clearly tossed out all his principles. Why did *Shoushou* appear colder than before?

Could it be that he'd guessed wrongly, and *Shoushou* didn't like him at all?

But then why didn't he push him away when he kissed him that day?

What's more, if *Shoushou* really didn't have any feelings for him, he would have been beaten to a pulp for kissing him like that!

So, why is *Shoushou* so cold now?

Zhang Lingyu's scholarship-winning IQ was defeated when it came to matters of love.

"*Shoushou*, let's go on a date this weekend!" Zhang Lingyu's indefatigable [lit. cockroach-like] spirit gushed out before Wang Guangning.

Wang Guangning didn't spare him a glance and was continuing to play his game. On hearing this, he scoffed: "Two adult men going on a date — for what!"

Zhang Lingyu's bottom-line had obviously broken through another barrier. He unflinchingly said: "Two men going on a date is good. It won't be as burdensome as going on a date with women. If you went on a date with a woman, you'd have to help her carry her bag, and rest every two steps she takes, and be at her beck and call, and you might even have to go window-shopping, how scary! But if you go on a date with me, it'll be different, yeah. I'm willing to carry your bag for you, be at your beck and call, offer to you everything you need [lit. light and heat] ..."

Wang Guangning was getting a headache from his words, and finally had no choice but to nod his head: "Going where?"

"Ah?" Zhang Lingyu was all prepared to continue his spiel, and was stunned by a response like this from Wang Guangning.

"Didn't you say we're going on a date?" Wang Guangning's expression was basically saying, if you continue pretending to be silly, *Laozi* is not going. "Going where?"

Zhang Lingyu immediately sprang back to life, overjoyed: "I've prepared three itineraries. Let's choose one together."

There were actually three itineraries!

Wang Guangning was conflicted as he looked at Zhang Lingyu. Didn't he usually have to go to work? Why did he have so much time to think of these things?

In the meantime, Zhang Lingyu was already enraptured by the joyful truth that "*Shoushou* has at long last agreed to go on a date with me" — he completely missed the complicated feelings that Wang Guangning was having.

"Number one, watch a movie. I've checked the latest movie listings, and there's a big one that's just been released, called "Flying Flesh and Blood". Apparently, it's really good and exciting" As Zhang Lingyu spoke, he seemed to think of something, and his eyes gleamed.

"Flying Flesh and Blood"? Isn't this the horror movie that's been promoted as soaked in the stench of blood? There was even a cinema ad that went, "If you love her, you'll take her to watch 'Flying Flesh and Blood Explosion'"

Wang Guangning's excellent memory allowed him to recall quickly the last time the two of them watched a movie. Zhang Lingyu's idea of what a horror movie was for — love's little helper!

So was Zhang Lingyu up to the same old trick?

Wang Guangning coldly looked at him: "I will not be leaning on your body. You can toss away that idea!"

Zhang Lingyu's dreams were dashed. He replied: "Then forget about it. Let's discuss the second one — playing at a water park!"

It would be best to ride a rollercoaster, then to comfort a frightened *Shoushou* in my arms. What a beautiful picture!

Wang Guangning was speechless as he watched Zhang Lingyu giggle to himself [lit. empty space in front of him]. Wasn't it just a water park? Why was he so excited?

There must be something unmentionable going on, one must be wary!

What's more, the water park at the weekend would be full of mean [lit. bear-like] kids. Just thinking about it was scary!

And so Wang Guangning unhesitatingly rejected: "Going to the water park at this age! Not going."

"Not going again!" Zhang Lingyu was dismayed: "That means there's only the last itinerary — going to the zoo."

Wang Guangning: "....."

Although it sounded very boring, at least it was better than the first two

"All right, it's this then!" Wang Guangning gave the final word.

Zhang Lingyu: "....."

Why did he have some regret over suggesting an itinerary like the zoo.

Would it really be romantic to face a bunch of birds and beasts?

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First thing on Saturday morning, Wang Guangning was dragged out of his nest by Zhang Lingyu. Zhang Lingyu's overflowing enthusiasm felt vaguely familiar to Wang Guangning — it was as though they were returning to the days of their agreement to be gay.

After breakfast, Zhang Lingyu drove Wang Guangning to the city zoo.

G City's zoo had a pretty good reputation. When Wang Guangning was little, his school had come here once for a springtime excursion. Afterwards, he didn't visit it again, including when he was at F Uni — he'd felt that he was long past the age of wanting to visit the zoo, and hadn't taken a single step there.

But now he was actually here for a date. As Wang Guangning observed the colourful, unfamiliar birds in their cages, he suddenly felt that he and Zhang Lingyu were really ridiculous.

Just as Wang Guangning was letting his mind wander, there was a burst of rowdiness from behind.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu turned around, and saw a group of what looked like university students walking over.

A girl clad in T-shirt and jeans was leading them and said loudly, "Everyone, this is the first of our Youth League [i.e. Chinese Communist Party's youth movement] activities today — free time. You can wander around. We'll gather an hour later at the empty area next to the lake at the centre of the zoo, for the second activity — games. OK, off you go."

At the leader's command, that group of students stampeded away.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu were speechless as they watched the horde of students rush past them. Why on earth had university students come to the zoo for their Youth League activities?

Wang Guangning rifled through his university memories of Youth League activities day, but it seemed as though they were all about environmental protection and things like that — in fact, it was just picking up rubbish at Moon Lake, or visiting lonely and poor old folks, and so on — meaningful activities.

Seeing those students in groups of threes and fours, chattering away — actually, these people were just making use of Youth League activities day to come out and play, weren't they!

Wang Guangning felt a headache coming on.

Zhang Lingyu was also unhappy. So many people — interfering so much with his romance!

What's more, there were quite a few young girls staring fixedly at him and Wang Guangning — forget about it if they were just staring at him, since handsome guys attract attention wherever they go, but how could they stare at his *Shoushou*, huh! They oughta know it's extremely rude to stare at someone else's wife!

As Zhang Lingyu came up with all sorts of reasons for their staring, he took Wang Guangning by the hand and said, "*Shoushou*, let's go see something else!"

The noise had induced a headache in Wang Guangning, so he had no objection.

Truth be told, going to the zoo was nothing much.

Thanks to technological advancements, you could see any animal you wanted on TV or the Internet. There was nothing novel about it for the people of today.

It was all right for a family with children, but for a pair of lovers, it was not an ideal choice.

Added to that was how there was unavoidably a weird smell in the air during summertime at the zoo, and all kinds of mean kids would mysteriously appear here and there — all this wrecked the romantic atmosphere even more.

Zhang Lingyu was a little annoyed. If he'd known earlier, he would've suggested going to the park or an orchard — that would've been better than coming to zoo.

Still, Wang Guangning was observing everything with great interest, and would frequently give the descriptions hanging on the railings a close read.

Zhang Lingyu didn't understand why at first, but afterwards he rationalized that it wasn't so strange for a person who likes *SpongeBob SquarePants* to have an interest in animals.

All right then. At the very least, *Shoushou* likes this place, so this shouldn't be considered too much of a failure.

Though it would've been even better if the air wasn't carrying that weird smell.

Zhang Lingyu couldn't help frowning again.

“Wah, Zhang Lingyu, I see your brother, yeah!” Wang Guangning suddenly exclaimed.

The distracted Zhang Lingyu turned at the sound, then went = = at once.

What was before them was obviously a herd of alpacas

What's more, it was a herd of long-unwashed alpacas — alpacas whose wool had yellowed.

All right then. As long as *Shoushou* is happy, that's fine.

And so, Zhang Lingyu raised his hands and rushed toward that herd of alpacas, waving: “Hi, brothers, long time no seeeeee. Have you been well lately?”

This time, it was Wang Guangning’s turn to go = =.

That’s enough, Zhang Lingyu; please hurry and pull up your bottom line!

While Wang Guangning was being rendered speechless, a boy’s excited voice rang out from the side: “Dad, Dad, look! It’s motherfckr [a pun that plays on the literal naming of grass, mud, horses — the kid’s name for those dirty alpacas]!”

Wang Guangning, Zhang Lingyu: “.....”

The young dad who was holding onto his kid’s hand blushed. He turned to the little boy right away and asked unhappily: “What did you say?”

That child immediately put on a cute expression and cupped his face in his hands, ramping up the adorableness: “It’s alpaca”

Wang Guangning, Zhang Lingyu: “.....”

What was up with kids today?

The two had a good look around as they were strolling, and before they knew it, they’d arrived beside the lake at the centre of the zoo. The lake had a few resident swans, which were gliding elegantly across the waters. The lake’s surface rippled with green hues, and looked beautiful and tranquil.

That is, it would have if that horde of university students hadn’t appeared once more.

Wang Guangning’s classmates had got along with one another pretty well, and would often organize group outings. Basically, anywhere they gathered turned into a real-life example of noise pollution.

As was the case with that horde of university students.

Wang Guangning saw that the horde had gathered together, occasionally exploding with laughter. He reflected about how, whenever he and his classmates organized parties, there must definitely have been many neighbours who cursed them out!

Zhang Lingyu was very obvious about not wanting to remain in the middle of this racket. Seeing that it was about time, he said, “*Shoushou*, why don’t we go back then?”

Wang Guangning nodded and was about to get up and leave when he heard another burst of loud laughter from that horde of students. Right then, a blushing girl dressed in a flowery skirt stood up. She hesitated for quite a while, before slowly making her way to Wang Guangning while her schoolmates continued to make a racket: “Go on, go on!”

“Mister, I may I have request that you give me a hug!” the girl couldn’t get her words out smoothly, and had already turned red from her face to her ears.

So they were playing a game of dare!

Wang Guangning remembered how, whenever his class held activities, they loved playing truth or dare the most. He would always be asked which girl he liked, or told to get the phone number of a girl he didn’t know, and stuff like that. But based on the fact of his incomparable good looks, he’d never been rejected by a girl.

Seeing that this girl was blushing so hard, he guessed that she was probably an introverted, shy type. Wang Guangning thought he would lend her a hand by just giving a quick hug, but Zhang Lingyu forestalled him by stepping out and saying: “This won’t do!”

That girl probably hadn’t expected to be rejected outright, so she blushed even harder, not knowing how to make her retreat. Zhang Lingyu then said: “If you need to complete the task, then I’ll give you a hug!”

Hearing this, Wang Guangning got angry. On what basis is it that I can’t hug but you can hug? He immediately pulled back Zhang Lingyu: “She

didn't say she wanted to hug you." As he spoke, he gave the girl a smile: "Just ignore him — I'll hug you." He generously opened his arms wide and lightly pulled her into his arms.

The horde of students, who had been silent spectators up to this point, broke out in a riot of whoops and cheers, and there was even shrill whistling.

The girl blushed harder still. She braced herself and finally raised her head to say: "That, I could I have your number, please?"

Originally, she wouldn't have dared to ask this question. But Wang Guangning pulling back Zhang Lingyu to insist on giving a hug himself had inevitably made her misunderstand a little bit. A man as outstanding as Wang Guangning was rare — even a restrained person like herself would want to make an attempt.

Zhang Lingyu had already turned gloomy when he saw Wang Guangning hug her. Now that she actually dared to overreach and ask for a phone number, he turned even gloomier — but he didn't dare to act rashly and say something to stop this. He deeply feared another counterattack by Wang Guangning.

Fortunately, this time round, Wang Guangning didn't go along with that girl and politely stepped back. He smiled: "I'm sorry, but I just returned from Taiwan, so I don't have a local number yet."

This was obviously an excuse, but it gave that girl a way out. Since that girl wasn't very brave anyway, and had already expended most of her courage in asking for his number, she didn't dare to ask for anything more now. Saying her thanks while blushing, she scurried back.

"Let's go!" Wang Guangning said to Zhang Lingyu.

"*Shoushou*, I'm jealous!" Zhang Lingyu had his sourpuss face on. "How could you hug someone else!"

Wang Guangning rolled his eyes: "And it's OK if you're the one doing the hugging?"

That's because I know that with your damned good manners, you definitely wouldn't let that girl be embarrassed!

Zhang Lingyu sighed helplessly, and suppressed his overflowing jealousy: "Let's go!"

Wang Guangning saw how disheartened Zhang Lingyu looked, and felt a little tickled. He silently gazed up at the sky, then gave Zhang Lingyu a pat on his shoulder: "Do you feel that the zoo has a weird smell?"

Well, of course it's strange! Animal sweat and stools under the hot sun would give off a smell. Even a mild whiff would make you uncomfortable!

But why did he mention this now after walking about for so long?

Zhang Lingyu didn't understand, but nodded anyway.

Wang Guangning said, "Then, let me give you some fresh air!" As he said that, he went up and gave Zhang Lingyu a light kiss.

Zhang Lingyu went still for a moment. Then, his eyes sparkled with uncontainable glee. His hands wrapped around Wang Guangning's waist, and he deepened the kiss.

At a distance, those university students burst out yet again with cries of alarm; this time round, there was a tone of them understanding something rather more profound.

"*Shoushou*, you like me too, don't you!" Zhang Lingyu wasn't enquiring this time, but affirming.

Wang Guangning shrugged his shoulders and ignored him. He walked off on his own toward the zoo's exit.

ABG30D c45

By the time they got out of the zoo, it was already noon. The two had a quick lunch at a famous wonton shop outside the zoo, then went home together.

On the way home, Wang Guangning received a call. It was Sun Sixiang urging him not to forget that the next day was the gathering for F Uni's founding anniversary.

"Hey, Zhang Lingyu, tomorrow's F Uni anniversary gathering — are you going?"

"Going, yeah," Zhang Lingyu was getting off the car and replied absent-mindedly. "*Shoushou*, are you going too? Then I'll drive you and we'll go together!"

Wang Guangning gave it a thought: "That'll do."

F Uni's sixtieth founding anniversary was a big affair. Many alumni took the trouble and travelled a long way to be there.

When Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu arrived, there were already so many cars that some were at the school next door. Zhang Lingyu could only park below a classroom building at the neighbouring brand-name university, and go by foot to F Uni with Wang Guangning.

There were lots of pedestrians, and quite a few people had taken the opportunity to set up memorabilia stalls along the road.

Wang Guangning had left in a hurry that year and hadn't returned to their *alma mater* since then. He did indeed miss the place to some extent, so he was distracted by the stalls, stopping at one now and again.

Halfway, Zhang Lingyu received Luo Zihui's call, saying that their classmates was already at a good restaurant nearby. They wanted him to come over quickly, so Zhang Lingyu could only say goodbye to Wang Guangning for now, and head to the restaurant first.

Wang Guangning was happy on his own. He was tall and handsome, and of outstanding temperament. Walking amongst the crowd, he turned not a few heads. Many of the young girls who had set up the roadside stalls jostled to peddle their wares to him, and even volunteered discounts.

"What's this?" Wang Guangning lifted up a palm-sized, rectangular wooden box. The lid of the box was stamped with the words, "XX University".

"This is a name-card box." The young lady who was selling the box blushed, seeing it was a handsome guy who asked.

"Oh." Wang Guangning raised his eyebrows. He took off the lid — the box was very solid and it was clear that it was pretty well-made. Asking for the price, he found it wasn't expensive, and so he bought one.

Leaving the stall, Wang Guangning continued to wander around aimlessly. F Uni's campus wasn't considered very large compared to the rest of G City's higher-education institutions, and it felt even tinier today. There were masses of people everywhere. There were young student volunteers giving alumni an excited welcome, and also middle-aged former students with nostalgia written on their faces. Countless people had painted over this landscape with the memories of their youth.

Of course, this included Wang Guangning.

He hadn't come here for a long while, but once he stepped foot on this piece of land, everything felt so familiar. There was no need to attempt recalling where the criss-crossing paths led to. Intuitively, he began walking along the paths he used to take.

Occasionally, a few familiar or unfamiliar faces would give him a look of surprise. But Wang Guangning placed more attention on the scenery, rather than the attitudes of passers-by.

Without knowing it, he'd walked to the lecture hall.

F Uni's lecture hall could seat a few hundred people, and there was a big open square in front of it. Because the residential area was a distance from the teaching area, this square was usually empty. It used to be the venue for military training drills. But today, the lecture hall was packed, and even the square had quite a few people walking about.

Wang Guangning was curious, so he squeezed into the lecture hall through a gap at the side of the crowd. From afar, he could see a red banner hanging on the lecture hall's stage with the words, "An Informal Dialogue with F Uni's Outstanding Alumni".

There were a dozen people spread across the stage from left to right. Each of them were well-dressed and sitting upright. A small and thin man was standing at the front of the stage, speaking with a mic about the history of his struggles at length.

At a glance, Wang Guangning recognized that man of that year — the one who had been unsuccessful in chasing Yu Haining, then ran to the forum to smear him. But as a result, he was roundly mocked by Zhang Lingyu. It was Xu Guohui, the one everyone called "F Uni's No. 1 Loser" [see [chapter 26](#)].

Who knew that this person could now stand in front of so many to go on about his history of successes. Fortunes could truly rise and fall; even a big loser could make a turnaround!

While musing over this, Xu Guohui ended his talk. The emcee took over centrestage and said: "Thanks to our senior, Xu Guohui, for sharing his experiences with us. Senior Xu graduated only three years ago, but has become the marketing manager of DM China's southern China branch. We can indeed learn a lot from his experiences. Now it's time for Q & A — if you have something you want to learn from Senior Xu, don't miss the chance to ask!"

As the emcee spoke, his eyes swept the audience.

Wang Guangning smiled faintly and was about to leave when he heard the emcee call out all of a sudden: “Senior Wang Guangning! It’s Senior Wang Guangning!”

Wang Guangning was shocked and came to a stop — the emcee was indeed directing his words at him and not hiding how pleasantly surprised he was: “Who knew that Senior Wang Guangning would also come. Please won’t you come onstage and share your thoughts with us for a while?”

The students present all enrolled after Wang Guangning had left. Many of them didn’t know who he was, and so it was clear they didn’t understand why the emcee was so ecstatic. It was the senior students who had heard a little bit about him — though they hadn’t seen Wang Guangning themselves, when they entered university, the legends about him were still being shared.

As F Uni wanted to show how it treasured its outstanding alumni, a fourth-year student had been assigned as the emcee. This student entered the university directly after Wang Guangning had left for Taiwan, so it happened that he’d heard quite a few rumours about Wang Guangning. What’s more, he also happened to be from Sun Sixiang’s hometown. Under his positive influence, he’d developed a bewildering adoration of Wang Guangning, despite never having met him.

This was especially because the rumours about Wang Guangning were always accompanied by extravagant epithets, such as:

F Uni’s Representative for “Tall, Rich and Handsome”!
Junior Sis Killer!
Student Council President!
College Basketball Team Member!
First-class Scholarship Recipient!
Student Exchange Programme Placement Winner!

Every epithet carried with it a blinding light, and so a few who were in the know began bubbling with excitement.

Some who had seen a photo of Wang Guangning followed the emcee's gaze and managed to work out that Wang Guangning was standing right at the back of the hall. Even though he was standing at the back, surrounded by a crowd, he was still standing head and shoulders above them, resplendent in his glory.

Wang Guangning gave a helpless smile. He could only slowly make his way toward the stage.

Xu Guohui's expression darkened considerably.

Although Wang Guangning wasn't intending to show off, as someone who had once loved the stage and had delusions of grandeur [lit. as a *chūnibyō*], this sort of occasion didn't faze him at all. He was not at all uncomfortable.

Even before he started heading to the stage, there were already startled noises from audience members who couldn't help themselves. By the time he stood onstage and the lights were focused on him, all of a sudden, it seemed as though his whole person was glowing.

He was born to be a star — this was probably when you would apply this saying.

The audience fell silent unexpectedly.

The emcee was clearly beside himself with excitement — the only thing missing was tears streaming from his eyes. He raised the mic and said: "Everyone, let me introduce to you — this gentleman was known as one of the most handsome guys of F Uni ever since its founding. Senior Guangning swept countless F Uni girls off their feet, but he wasn't only good-looking. He was also our school's most outstanding student. He was the college basketball team member, student council president, and even received a first-class scholarship. Senior Wang Guangning went to Taiwan on exchange after his fourth year — who would've known he would appear in school today. It's truly an honour!"

Wang Guangning gave everyone an unhurried wave.

The audience broke out in whoops and cheers.

The emcee turned to Wang Guangning and asked: “Senior, you were the idol of countless junior brothers and sisters. Since you returned to school today, I wonder if you have anything you would like to say to all of us?”

Wang Guangning took the mic handed to him by the stage assistant, gave a faint smile, and said: “Then, let me encourage everyone to study well and progress daily.”

The audience gave a big laugh and someone was impertinent enough to boo.

“Senior Guangning is so humorous.” The emcee said, “I wonder which esteemed position Senior currently holds?”

Wang Guangning said: “Everyone might not have heard of this company. It’s called Fumaokaisi.”

“Wah, of course we’ve heard of it!” The emcee raised his voice, “Fumaokaisi is one of Taiwan’s biggest enterprises! Ah, then this means that Senior Wang Guangning and Senior Xu Guohui are in the same industry!”

Fancy that the emcee still remembered that Xu Guohui was present.

Wang Guangning smiled: “I’m not only in the same industry as Brother Xu. We were even classmates before!”

“Oh, that’s right, you were in the same batch.” The emcee’s tone of voice obviously implied that Xu Guohui hadn’t shone as brightly as Wang Guangning, so everyone only remembered Wang Guangning from that batch.

Fumaokaisi?

Originally the focus of attention, Xu Guohui was immediately pushed aside and coldly ignored when Wang Guangning appeared. But now he finally found a way to counterattack. He put on a show of being polite and

continued from the emcee's words: "I wonder what Guangning's position at Fumaokaisi is?"

Upon Xu Guohui's question, everyone's focus was drawn to him immediately.

Students invariably had a bafflingly high opinion of big companies.

They may not know how different industries and enterprises operated, and what various industry positions actually entailed, but the level of one's position was something that was easier for them to judge.

Since Fumaokaisi and DM China were both big guns in the same industry, it was hard to discern which was better than the other. In order to figure out whether Xu Guohui or Wang Guangning was doing better, they would naturally look at their job positions.

Xu Guohui believed it was impossible that Wang Guangning surpassed him. To have become the marketing manager of a foreign enterprise three years after graduation was no easy feat — and so Xu Guohui asked his question on purpose.

Wang Guangning naturally discerned Xu Guohui's enmity. It was no big deal to him. He didn't self-aggrandize, and didn't pretend to be modest: "I'm presently the marketing manager."

On the face of it, it sounded as though he and Xu Guohui were on par.

The students in the audience didn't understand the industry implications. At the beginning, the emcee had talked up Xu Guohui's success, and Xu Guohui had also tooted his own horn during his talk.

If Wang Guangning and Xu Guohui had somewhat the same job position, this meant that Xu Guohui's glory would directly be transferred over to Wang Guangning. And since Wang Guangning was so incredibly handsome — with once-in-a-lifetime kind of good looks — Xu Guohui was immediately tossed away.

Everyone's curiosity about Wang Guangning intensified.

Xu Guohui hated this so much he was grinding his teeth. This hate didn't just stem from Wang Guangning once again robbing him of the spotlight — it was also rooted in their profession.

Xu Guohui had always thought he was very successful, and that he had finally washed himself clean of the nightmare of "F Uni's No. 1 Loser". But Wang Guangning had once again easily made him crash to the bottom.

DM China's marketing manager.

Fumaokaisi's marketing manager.

Perhaps the students present didn't know there was a difference.

But Xu Guohui knew the difference between them wasn't slight.

Both were big guns in the industry, and DM China was a little more established than Fumaokaisi. But since DM China had entered the mainland China market earlier, it had secured a foothold early on. As the market matured, the marketing department's importance weakened — its current function was more as an auxiliary to the sales department. It mainly gave support — important but not powerful.

But Fumaokaisi was not the same. It had just entered the mainland and was in the middle of testing the market. The marketing department played a crucial role, such that even the sales department had to follow its lead. To be the marketing manager was to be the big boss's right-hand man.

Xu Guohui had heard that Fumaokaisi's marketing manager was a capable young man, who was held in high regard by old Zhou. Even Huidi International's David sang his praises, and he had even been invited to Huidi's anniversary dinner.

Who would've thought it was actually Wang Guangning.

The memory of being utterly humiliated after slinging mud at Wang Guangning in the forum rushed back to Xu Guohui. It couldn't be denied

that his hate toward Wang Guangning was part of why he climbed so quickly to this position these past few years.

He wanted to surpass Wang Guangning. The thought of crushing him under his feet one day spurred him to work tirelessly.

But why was it that just as he thought he had achieved his goal, Wang Guangning once again effortlessly smashed his fantasy to smithereens.

As Xu Guohui looked out at the audience members entranced by Wang Guangning, it seemed as though each intoxicated expression transformed into one that was mocking him.

Wang Guangning, I will make you pay the price one day.

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Not long after he managed to leave the dialogue session, Wang Guangning received a call from Sun Sixiang.

“Wang Guangning, are you here yet — we’ve already ordered the food, so we’re just waiting for your wallet!”

Wang Guangning laughed helplessly: “Almost there — where are you all?”

Sun Sixiang said: “At *Pinshishang* [lit. Cuisine Trends, i.e. the name of the restaurant]. Hurry and get yourself over here.”

After ending the call, Wang Guangning headed toward *Pinshishang* unhurriedly.

Pinshishang was one of the better restaurants near F Uni. As today was a special occasion, the place was packed. Although Wang Guangning’s class had reserved a table beforehand, they were only able to get one in the main hall. The private rooms were all full.

But the class didn’t care — they were confident that no matter where they went, they would be the group making the loudest noise. They were not at all worried about being disturbed by others — rather, it was good enough that they weren’t being a disturbance.

Everyone was already present when Wang Guangning arrived. This was their first class reunion after graduation, and what’s more, Sun Sixiang had got the word out that Wang Guangning, who’d left that year without a goodbye, had finally returned and would appear this time. So, the attendance at this alumni gathering was especially high, with more than thirty people taking up two whole tables.

Just as Wang Guangning stepped past the restaurant's main doors, Sun Sixiang, who had been keeping his eye on the entrance, gave a loud shout and rushed over. He slung an arm over Wang Guangning's neck and said: "Fck, we all thought you weren't going to turn up, that you were gonna break your word!"

Wang Guangning good-naturedly let himself be dragged to one of the tables. The faces there were all familiar, though the passing of time had matured them, and the vicissitudes of life were evident. However, the friendship they had forged remained the same. The feelings expressed in one's youth were pure, and so were the ways used to express them.

Wang Guangning had only arrived for a moment when the boys who had once played well together all converged upon him. They didn't put off giving him a sound beating — it was only when everyone had let off steam that Wang Guangning was able to struggle out of the scrum, raising his hands in surrender: "Don't be angry, everyone, don't be angry. I'll pay for this meal. Everybody, go ahead and order more dishes. It's OK even if it's a bit more expensive!"

"Fck, even dare to show off your wealth!" The burly class monitor gave an indignant snort, and was about to rush at him for round two.

Wang Guangning quickly said: "If you continue beating me up, I'm not footing the bill later!"

The class monitor gave it thought — a meal was much more important than Wang Guangning for sure. Huffily, he decided to let this go, and hollered indignantly at a waitress: "Young lady, give us two more dishes — no need for the menu, just give us the most expensive ones!"

Beaten up — check. Fleeced — check. Everyone's fury was finally vented. But they were still curious about Wang Guangning's sudden departure that year. When Wang Guangning took a seat, they began to take turns questioning him.

"Wang Guangning, out with it — why did you run off to Taiwan without a word?"

“Fck, must have looked down on this bunch of guys after making it, right!” The class monitor was muttering as he savagely stabbed at the food.

“I was given urgent notice, so I had to leave directly

 Wang Guangning lied blatantly.

“Quit it — then why weren’t the other exchange students so urgent?”

“Can’t be helped. You know exceptional people tend to be in high demand, yeah.” Wang Guangning’s words brought on another round of scorn. How is it that after so many years, this person still had not recovered from his *chūnibyō* disease [i.e. delusions of grandeur].

To be honest, no excuse could be made for what happened that year. Even if he could have justified why he left without a word, he couldn’t explain why he had cut off communication with everyone completely. Wang Guangning simply didn’t reply to the questioning, and turned it round by asking for updates from everyone: “That’s right, I heard that Xiumin has got married — congratulations yeah. I’ll make up for the red packet [i.e. customary money gift] later.”

Indeed, everyone’s attention was swiftly diverted. In this sort of gathering, it was easy to change the subject, and everyone resonated with the topic of marriage. So, there were numerous, deeply felt comments about who had got married, who had been forced to marry, who had a child already, and so on and so forth. There was an ocean’s worth of gossip covering over Wang Guangning’s matter, and so it was set aside just like that.

Wang Guangning secretly sighed with relief.

Everyone was heartily indulging in food, wine and conversation. The class monitor’s appetite hadn’t decreased one whit, and he charged ahead when it came to tasting a new dish. Just as he was engaged in a fierce battle with a chicken leg, his eyes brightened as he gazed in a certain direction: “Everyone, quick, look who’s there!”

They were all distracted by the class monitor’s call and turned with one accord — then everyone’s eyes brightened as well with the expectation of

hot gossip!

The door to a private room nearby had swung open, and a tall figure had stepped out. It was none other than the one who had been all the rage of F Uni, its most handsome guy, Zhang Lingyu!

And so, everyone started looking a bit shady, giving Zhang Lingyu a look, then Wang Guangning a look.

“Come to think of it, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu used to be the top two lookers of F Uni, but the question of who was actually number one and who was number two never did get settled. Did you guys ever work this out, huh?” A classmate with a crew-cut raised his brows as he asked.

You won’t stop till you stir up trouble, will you, this classmate!

Wang Guangning raised a middle finger at him in his heart, immediately brushed away his fringe, and raised his chin proudly to say: “It must be *Laozi* who’s number one, yeah!”

The class monitor spat out a chicken bone, and threw a sidelong glance at Wang Guangning: “I heard Zhang Lingyu’s classmates say that Zhang Lingyu would say the same thing during their class reunions.”

Everyone nodded in agreement, their desire for gossip burning hot.

“So?” Wang Guangning leaned back with his hands waving: “How do you prove this kind of thing? Don’t tell me we need to conduct some kinda poll?”

Truth be told, this kind of poll hadn’t been uncommon in those days, only that the result was always split evenly between him and Zhang Lingyu.

“No need for that!” The crew-cut classmate had obviously thought ahead, and gave a wicked smile: “How about this — you just need to have Zhang Lingyu come over and admit in front of all of us that you’re more than handsome than him!”

Treachery! Truly, treachery!

Anyone who'd been at F Uni would know that it'd already be considered sheer luck that Zhang Lingyu didn't come to blows with Wang Guangning in front of everyone. To have him admit in public that Wang Guangning was more handsome than him would be the equivalent of Wang Leehom admitting in public to a relationship with Li Yundi, eh.

And so, everyone was anticipating a good show as they waited for Wang Guangning's response.

Bad friends, just bad friends! A big bunch of bad friends!

Wang Guangning sighed over meeting this bunch of indecent people, while rubbing his first two fingers together. Solemnly, he said: "Now, if Zhang Lingyu admits in front of everyone I'm more handsome than him, what do I get out of it?"

They can't expect him to give something up without getting something in return.

The crew-cut classmate absolutely didn't believe that Wang Guangning would be able to get Zhang Lingyu to come over, and treated this as an empty threat. He nonchalantly took out a hundred-dollar note from his wallet and said: "If he admits in front of everybody that you're more handsome, I'll give you a hundred dollars!"

Wang Guangning gave a look of contempt at the red note with Grandpa Mao on it: "The stake is too small, eh. Is anyone else following."

Everyone had been just seeing this as a joke. None of them believed Zhang Lingyu would be willing to admit defeat to Wang Guangning — who in F Uni didn't know that they were like oil and water, with no détente possible, yeah!

Now that they saw Wang Guangning was even willing to lay down a wager, everyone got excited. They followed the stake, one by one whipping out a hundred-dollar note, all of them watching for how Wang Guangning would make his retreat.

Wang Guangning waited for everyone to place their bets. He picked up the huge wad of red notes, and smiled: “So it’s decided, if I accomplish this, all this money is mine, yeah!”

No one dissented, so Wang Guangning headed toward Zhang Lingyu.

Zhang Lingyu had popped out for the restroom, and didn’t expect he would bump into Wang Guangning on the way back. He was delighted and called out: “*Shoushou*.”

“Not allowed to call me that,” Wang Guangning sternly said. Without another word, he dragged off Zhang Lingyu.

Before Zhang Lingyu could understand what was happening, he’d been dragged away by Wang Guangning before his classmates’ table.

Zhang Lingyu knew most of the people in Wang Guangning’s class, so he could tell at a glance that this was their class reunion. But he didn’t know Wang Guangning’s intention in bringing him over.

He was perplexed, but Wang Guangning’s classmates were even more befuddled.

Everyone was amazed — Wang Guangning really dared to make Zhang Lingyu come over here, and why did Zhang Lingyu get dragged over so easily?

Wang Guangning had Zhang Lingyu straighten up, and said: “Zhang Lingyu, my classmates said they wanted you to admit in person that I was the most handsome guy in F Uni!”

Zhang Lingyu’s lips quirked — what was this situation?

He was still confused. Wang Guangning saw that he hadn’t responded, and nudged his arm, saying: “Hey, tell everyone, am I more handsome than you!”

So, was this actually a battle of childishness?

Zhang Lingyu understood that Wang Guangning's *chūnibyō* disease must have flared up again. He wouldn't rest till he conceded that he was F Uni's most handsome guy.

If it had been all those years ago, before he became gay, he would have persisted in scoffing at him and even embarrassing him in front of everyone. But what kind of relationship did they have now!

In Zhang Lingyu's own words, he was none other than a little cheap *gong* now. Of course he had to comply with *Shoushou*, please *Shoushou*, satisfy the needs of *Shoushou*'s *chūnibyō* disease, yeah!

"Yup, Wang Guangning is more handsome than me." Zhang Lingyu helplessly smiled. After a pause, he added, "But only by a teensy bit."

OMG, what's happening?

The sound of a collective jaw drop rang out in the place.

I must have heard wrongly?

Or is the person before us actually not Zhang Lingyu, but a surgically altered impersonator?

Heavens above, please tell me this isn't true!

Seeing how everyone was shocked to a stone-cold standstill, Wang Guangning was silently thrilled. He waved off Zhang Lingyu: "That's enough, you may depart [i.e. how a king would dismiss his subject]!"

Zhang Lingyu could only shake his head, though his eyes showed a gentle indulgence. He gave a wave to the frozen crowd and left.

Wang Guangning was feeling high as he waved about the dollar notes in his hands: "Who would've known that even though I was supposed to pay for this meal, everyone ending up paying!"

"Nooooooo ..." The class monitor suddenly gave a mournful cry, and the half-eaten slice of fish that had been in his mouth dropped out accordingly:

“I don’t believe this is true!”

Wang Guangning was speechless as he watched the class monitor’s performance, and decided to ignore him.

After such a scene, any other piece of gossip seemed to pale in comparison. Until the meal was over, everyone was unable to recover from the shock.

The meal was hosted by the class monitor. A lot of signature dishes had been ordered, and the bill wasn’t cheap. But since Wang Guangning had won over 3,000 dollars, after paying for the meal, he had a remainder of 200 dollars. He decided to treat Zhang Lingyu to a big meal.

It was raucously decided that the next stop would be karaoke, but some couldn’t join because of work and so on. Wang Guangning thought of Zhang Lingyu and also declined.

Looking at the time, Zhang Lingyu should be just about done as well. Wang Guangning got ready to go to the restroom, then wait outside the restaurant for him.

Just as he had left the restroom and pulled out his phone to send Zhang Lingyu a message, he saw a tall and slender beauty come face-to-face with him.

Wang Guangning’s heart sank. That lady was also stunned, but recovered quickly and put on a polite and cool smile. She said to Wang Guangning: “It’s been a while.”

Wang Guangning also gave a faint smile: “It’s been a while.”

Luo Zihui.

A little scene by the author

Wang Guangning: Who is F Uni's number one looker?

Zhang Lingyu: It's *Shoushou*!

Wang Guangning: Who is F Uni's number one MAN?

Zhang Lingyu: It's *Shoushou*!

Crowd:

Is this brainwashing by an MLM group?

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“May we talk privately?” said Luo Zihui.

Wang Guangning didn’t think he had anything to talk about with Luo Zihui, but held his smile: “Sure.”

Although talking privately was mentioned, they didn’t actually go too far off. They just ended up at an alley next to the restaurant.

“Didn’t think you would also come.” Luo Zihui said, as she twirled the ends of her hair softly. Her hair was hanging loosely across her shoulders, lightly permed, looking lovely and charming.

“It was a rare opportunity, so I grabbed the chance to meet up with my classmates.” Wang Guangning said, unclear about Luo Zihui’s actual intentions.

“I’m with Zhuo Ximing now.” Luo Zihui suddenly changed the topic.

Wang Guangning had to think for a moment before he recalled who Zhuo Ximing was — F Uni’s computing genius of their time [see [chapter 17](#)].

He was a truly outstanding man.

But what did this have to do with him? Wang Guangning believed his friendship with Luo Zihui wasn’t deep enough to warrant keeping each other in the loop.

“Zhuo Ximing treats me really well. He cares about me. Even though he’s not romantic enough, he’s very considerate.” Luo Zihui looked a little emotional. “I was very naïve before. I’d only wanted to be with the one I liked. But once we got together, I realized that if the other person’s heart

wasn't with me, no matter how hard I forced it, there wouldn't be happiness."

Luo Zihui looked at Wang Guangning, and slowly said: "You definitely wouldn't know that I was the one who initiated the break-up with Zhang Lingyu."

Wang Guangning didn't reply. Truth be told, he hadn't ever wanted to ask Zhang Lingyu about anything to do with him and Luo Zihui.

It was an emotional scar for him. If there was no need to, he wasn't willing to open up that scar by himself.

Luo Zihui saw that Wang Guangning was silent, and softly laughed at herself. She then said: "You're really alike. Seems easy to get along with, but won't say a word, so everything has to be guessed. Really serves you right."

Serves you right that you couldn't be together at that time.

Wang Guangning's expression slightly shifted, but he didn't know what to say.

Luo Zihui looked up slightly, as though she was recalling something: "I only dated Zhang Lingyu for a month, but in that month, we only met three times. When we were supposed to be in our honeymoon period, he was totally consumed by the search for you."

"I don't know what happened between the two of you then, why he suddenly cared about you so much. But this made me understand one thing — it turns out that in Lingyu's heart, I was far less important to him than you. Isn't it funny?" That year, she really felt she had been made a mockery, but with the passage of time, Luo Zihui found that she could in fact think back on those events calmly, and even dismiss them with a laugh.

"There was one time I was having a meal with him, and discovered his phone's screen was your headshot. I wanted to change it to mine, but he ended up grabbing the phone back so anxiously, and wouldn't let me touch

it.” Luo Zihui thought back to that scene with a pang of sadness. She gave a bitter laugh: “Wang Guangning, I remember, your phone’s screen also seemed to be Zhang Lingyu, yeah.”

Wang Guangning was surging with emotions inside, but his expression didn’t reveal anything.

Luo Zihui saw how she had been chattering on, but Wang Guangning hadn’t given a single response. Helpless, she tilted her head to one side and smiled: “Actually, I just wanted to thank you, for letting me see my place in Zhang Lingyu’s heart clearly.”

Wang Guangning finally felt it would be too ill-mannered of him if he still didn’t reply, so he gave a faint smile: “Thank you for telling me all this.”

He thought a little more and added: “I wish you happiness.”

“Thank you, it’s what I deserve.” Luo Zihui said. To leave the person she loved deeply, wasn’t it for the sake of a more lasting happiness?

Seeing that Wang Guangning wasn’t going to say more, she sensibly came to a stop and took her leave.

After Luo Zihui left, Wang Guangning fell silent for a long while.

Even though it was the case that Zhang Lingyu had clearly declared that he liked him, and that he’d liked him for a long time.

But deep in Wang Guangning’s heart was the thought that he was the one who’d fallen in love first. The four long years of loneliness and yearning had made it hard for him to express his true feelings. No matter how considerate and fawning Zhang Lingyu was, there was a knot in his heart. He blamed Zhang Lingyu for extricating himself too smoothly, and making him a complete fool.

Yet what Luo Zihui just described to him was a Zhang Lingyu that he had never known.

So, was he just the same as him at that time, already in love with the other person? Had he also been anxious and sad over the other's departure?

So, he wasn't so unaffected, and was just like him, profoundly trapped?

Wang Guangning suddenly felt as though his heart had swollen up with something that was clamouring to burst out.

Zhang Lingyu finally managed to get away from his class reunion and was about to call Wang Guangning and ask where he was, when he received a message from Wang Guangning.

"I'm beside Moon Lake. You come over, and by the way, bring a spade with you."

Zhang Lingyu didn't understand what this was for, but since *Shoushou* had given the order, he would of course comply, yeah. So, he went to a sports shop and bought a small shovel, then eagerly [lit. with jolting buttocks] ran off to Moon Lake.

There were quite a few people at Moon Lake too. Many alumni had specially made their way there to reminisce about their youth, so it took Zhang Lingyu some time before he found Wang Guangning.

"*Shoushou*." Zhang Lingyu rushed toward Wang Guangning, waving. He raised the little shovel before him: "What are we doing?"

Wang Guangning pointed at the roots of the tree next to him: "Digging for something, yeah."

On the surface, he was very calm, but in fact he was a little anxious.

It was only then that Zhang Lingyu noticed the tree next to Wang Guangning was a fiddle-leaf fig. It was the only fiddle-leaf fig by the shore of Moon Lake. Belatedly, he recalled how they'd buried their secrets there together.

At the time, they'd been full of zest as they followed along with that 'being gay' checklist. They'd buried their own secrets there, agreeing to dig them up after graduation. But with Wang Guangning's sudden departure, Zhang Lingyu had tossed this matter to the back of his mind.

At long last, this matter was recalled.

But Zhang Lingyu couldn't quite work out what Wang Guangning was thinking. They had done this more with playfulness than any other intention, and Zhang Lingyu didn't feel that Wang Guangning had buried any great secret. What made him take this digging so seriously now?

What's more, what he'd buried that year was ...

His impressive memory caused Zhang Lingyu to recollect swiftly the contents of what he'd buried. Internally, he went totally .

"Go on and dig then." Wang Guangning saw that Zhang Lingyu was in a daze, and issued a direct order.

Back to the old adage — if *Shoushou* gave the order, then he would of course comply.

And so, big ol' handsome Zhang Lingyu took up the little shovel and, squatting down, he began to dig at the base of the fiddle-leaf fig.

There were many people strolling by the lake, and quite a few of them were shocked by this sight — what's he doing? Could he be stealing this tree? Who would've thought that this young man, all good-looking and such, would be a low-class tree robber!

And he was even doing this in the light of day, in plain sight — truly, public morality has gone to the dogs!

Everyone was looking at him with contempt.

Zhang Lingyu was serious about digging up the soil, and didn't notice that he'd become a well-dressed scum of the earth to the passers-by. Earnestly and speedily, he dug up that chocolate tin. As it'd been a long time and the

soil was muddy, that tin had already rusted thoroughly, and was horrible to look at.

Zhang Lingyu held the tin gingerly, the dislike on his face clear as he looked at Wang Guangning: “*Shoushou*, do we open this now?”

Wang Guangning saw that there were many people about, and said: “Let’s open it when we get back.”

Zhang Lingyu had no objection. He’d already been thinking that these passers-by were really strange. They kept giving him strange looks, and it was making him very uncomfortable!

Zhang Lingyu drove Wang Guangning home. His hands still had traces of mud, so he went to wash his hands first. By the time he returned from the washroom, Wang Guangning had wiped the tin clean and placed it on the coffee table, and was waiting on the sofa for him.

Zhang Lingyu saw that Wang Guangning had on a solemn look, and this induced a little nervousness in him. He walked over and sat next to him.

“Zhang Lingyu.” Wang Guangning looked at him: “Give me your phone.”

“Ah?” Zhang Lingyu was confused, but handed over his phone to Wang Guangning.

Wang Guangning received the phone — it was the same one from four years ago, only that the burnishing of time had rendered it a little old-fashioned, and quite a bit of the coating had come off. He pressed a button and the screen lit up — the wallpaper was indeed still that of him pretending to be cool. The phone had a password — Wang Guangning didn’t think twice before entering his own birth date, and as expected, the phone was unlocked.

“*Shoushou*, what do you want to see?” Zhang Lingyu’s expressions kept shifting as he observed without understanding why Wang Guangning was looking at his phone.

Wang Guangning feigned nonchalance as he shrugged and returned the phone to Zhang Lingyu: “Nothing much. You open the tin, yeah.”

Zhang Lingyu obliged and opened the tin. Because it was rusted so badly, Zhang Lingyu had to exert a lot of strength before he could open it. Flakes of rust fell on the table too.

Fortunately, the tin’s interior wasn’t rusty, and was rather clean.

Two folded pieces of paper quietly laid at the bottom of the tin. The passing of time had yellowed the papers somewhat.

Though the two of them had already mentally prepared themselves, when they actually saw the papers, they couldn’t help feeling a little nervous.

“Let’s look.” Wang Guangning pretended to be calm as he picked up one of the pieces, doing his best not to let his hands tremble.

The piece of paper was slowly opened up. There was one sentence in bold cursive handwriting on the yellowed piece of paper —

Actually, on that night in Xiamen, I wasn’t hard because of the A/V,
but because *Shoushou* was beside me ~

Zhang Lingyu: “.....”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

“Heh heh.” Zhang Lingyu scratched his head as he gave a foolish laugh. He blushed slightly: “*Shoushou*, it was afterward that I understood, I already liked you then.”

Wang Guangning’s mood was very complicated. It was true that he was happy, but this joy was contaminated by an unspeakable .

Zhang Lingyu, you really can be even cruder, it’s OK. [edited this line on 15 Feb after I finally understood the sarcastic use of the slang]

“OK, let’s take a look at yours.” Zhang Lingyu was really curious now. He took up the remaining piece of paper, nervous and impatient as he opened it.

Wang Guangning’s handwriting was much tidier and neater than Zhang Lingyu’s, and the piece of paper also had just one sentence —

It would be so great if you were a girl, then I would be able to like you openly.

Zhang Lingyu read this sentence. Was struck dumb for a moment. And was hesitant as he looked at Wang Guangning: “*Shoushou*, this sentence, what does it mean?”

Wang Guangning was blushing a little, but still cleared his throat, looked at Zhang Lingyu, and slowly said: “Zhang Lingyu, I like you.”

After a pause, he added: “I liked you from four years ago.”

Zhang Lingyu’s eyes suddenly widened. He didn’t dare believe what he was seeing, what he was hearing, but he couldn’t help but smile wide, and wider again.

“*Shoushou*, is what you’re saying true?”

ABG30D c48

Wang Guangning gazed wordlessly at Zhang Lingyu, his eyes full of warmth.

What more needed to be said at this time?

Zhang Lingyu leaned forward, and hugged Wang Guangning tightly, his lips pressing in pursuit.

This was a slow and wet kiss, with no more testing, and no more misgivings.

When they separated, both were somewhat breathless.

*** Page 2 is NSFW ***

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ABG30D c48

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Zhang Lingyu slowly lowered Wang Guangning onto the sofa, his legs bent on each side of his body. He was almost astride his body, and their sensitive parts were pressed together.

Zhang Lingyu was wearing soft, high-quality trackpants, so Wang Guangning easily felt how a certain part of his had already perked up.

Blushing a little, the rarely embarrassed Wang Guangning turned his head to the side shyly.

He also had a reaction, but as he was wearing jeans today, the part that had moved was being fettered by thick and stiff material.

Zhang Lingyu breathed roughly. He couldn't hold back from grabbing Wang Guangning's hand to stroke his raised member, which was covered only by the cloth of his trackpants.

Wang Guangning was hesitant, but didn't refuse. He slowly traced the shape of Zhang Lingyu on top of the cloth.

That part of Zhang Lingyu was very large, and felt very hard. Wang Guangning had always thought of himself as being very large, but Zhang Lingyu seemed a little larger. Even just stroking it made his hand start to tremble.

Zhang Lingyu let out a long breath comfortably. The one doing this kind of thing for him was Wang Guangning. Knowing this brought on a sexual thrill that surpassed him touching himself. Wanting more, he leaned down

and lightly licked Wang Guangning's chin, then followed the line down to his neck, and grazed his Adam's apple.

Wang Guangning was sensitive and gave a loud gulp.

Zhang Lingyu laughed softly, and kept going downwards. Using his moistened lips, he trailed the curves of Wang Guangning's chest. Though covered by a shirt, he could feel how firm the muscles were. The points on the chest were already erect. The shirt was wet by saliva, and so he could make out their blush pink tone faintly.

Zhang Lingyu lightly bit one of those points. Wang Guangning couldn't help but let out a soft sigh, and even grabbed Zhang Lingyu's hand with some strength.

Zhang Lingyu felt how that part of himself had been pressed down, and it enlarged even more. He didn't hold back and pulled down Wang Guangning's zipper.

Wang Guangning didn't struggle, and helped Zhang Lingyu pull his jeans down to the knees. He was wearing a pair of black briefs, and it could now be seen that the central part had been tented up, was a little wet, was already starting to drip.

Zhang Lingyu sucked in a breath, and gave Wang Guangning a look — only to see his eyes brimming with tears. His breathing quickened.

"Guangning, I love you." Zhang Lingyu said. He reached out and embraced Wang Guangning, helping him to sit up.

Wang Guangning's heart and mind were racing. He steadily gazed at him, eyes overflowing with warmth.

"I've loved you for a very long time." Zhang Lingyu said, giving him a kiss on the tip of his nose. "Maybe even longer than I'd thought."

"I love you too." Wang Guangning said. Both of their pulses were raging, and it wasn't all because of bodily contact. Their hearts were thumping as

well.

Someone that you've loved for such a long time, and thought you could accept mere friendship with — only to find out he was just as in love with you.

Wang Guangning wanted to say more, but his heart was so very full right now, so full that he couldn't express it in words.

He reached out and pulled down Zhang Lingyu's trackpants and underwear at one go, and the engorged member bounced out immediately.

"Guangning" Zhang Lingyu started breathing even more heavily, and he also pulled down Wang Guangning's underwear. Wang Guangning's member had also hardened like his.

Zhang Lingyu kicked off his own trackpants and pressed that hardened part against his. He wrapped his hands around their heated members, claspings their desires together.

Wang Guangning gripped Zhang Lingyu's shoulders and nestled his head against one of them. His warm breath brushed past Zhang Lingyu's neck, rousing the speed of his hands.

The sofa was very broad, but it was still too narrow for two strapping adult males. Zhang Lingyu was bracing himself with one leg on the floor and one leg on the sofa, as he rubbed their heated members together to a quick rhythm.

Wang Guangning's breaths soon became uneven. Broken moans began to spill out from his mouth, and the hands on Zhang Lingyu's shoulders tightened their grip.

"Lingyu" Wang Guangning moaned as panted. He was sitting in Zhang Lingyu's embrace, but the intense stimulation was making his waist ache: "Let me lie down"

Zhang Lingyu's gaze darkened. He loosened his grip on their sensitive parts, and laid Wang Guangning down once more.

Wang Guangning's jeans still hung from his knees. Zhang Lingyu's breathing was ragged as he tugged off the jeans and underwear, then promptly bent down and covered Wang Guangning's lips again. They were lost in each other's eyes, dark and deep. Wang Guangning pushed out the tip of his tongue clumsily, and Zhang Lingyu immediately responded. Their soft tongues tangled and teased each other, igniting a passion neither had ever experienced.

Wang Guangning was getting out of breath. A clear liquid trickled past the edges of their mouths. Zhang Lingyu was ravenously kissing him, devouring him so deeply that Wang Guangning began to gasp.

Zhang Lingyu continued to kiss Wang Guangning as he pushed his shirt up past his chest. He left his lips begrudgingly, and kissed his way down to his stomach.

Wang Guangning shivered, both hands grasping Zhang Lingyu's hair and pressing him closely against himself.

His whole body was aflame. The tip of that erect part of his kept rubbing against Zhang Lingyu's covered chest, stirring up Zhang Lingyu to a fever pitch. Zhang Lingyu tore off his top and threw it aside, irritated, then hurried back to bite gently on Wang Guangning's abs. He made his way down his stomach, kissed along the mermaid line, then kept circling round the top of his thighs.

Wang Guangning squeezed his knees together, tightened his toes, and couldn't hold back his groans.

"Hook around me." Zhang Lingyu felt his own desire was about to burst, but continued to guide Wang Guangning patiently.

Wang Guangning, as though bewitched, wrapped his right leg around Zhang Lingyu's waist.

Zhang Lingyu chuckled, his heart soaked with warm satisfaction.

Wang Guangning's desire was standing erect before him. Zhang Lingyu reached out and rubbed the tip with the rough skin on his thumb, kneading out quite a bit of juice.

Wang Guangning breathed roughly, seeming to moan out his words:
“Lingyu don't

Zhang Lingyu raised his eyes, and saw how Wang Guangning was blushing an intoxicating shade of deep red. He no longer restrained himself, and gave a kiss to Wang Guangning's hardened member. Right then, it was as though a jolt of electricity went through Wang Guangning.

Zhang Lingyu held that organ, lightly licking it first, then holding the upper portion in his mouth.

Wang Guangning couldn't help but hold his breath. The leg he'd wrapped around Zhang Lingyu tensed uncontrollably.

“Lingyu

Was there anything more erotic than hearing the one you love call out your name hoarsely in the midst of sexual passion?

Zhang Lingyu swallowed that coarse and long fellow whole. He was inexperienced on this front, so the impact hurt the back of his throat. But a deep satisfaction swelled in his heart.

Wang Guangning was blushing red hot now. His eyes were unfocused, with unconscious tears blooming. The intensity of the stimulation had engulfed him, rendering him near insensible, leaving him only with a rising tide of happiness.

His hands were at a loss and could only grasp onto Zhang Lingyu's head tightly. He wanted to stop, but couldn't bring himself to do so. That uncontrollable part of himself was getting fuller and harder, to the point of no return — then a stream of warm liquid gushed out.

He shot out for quite a while. Zhang Lingyu couldn't duck in time. He choked a little and quickly turned his head aside.

Wang Guangning was gasping as his eyes regained focus. He dazedly looked up at the ceiling, panting. Only when he noticed the sound of Zhang Lingyu choking, did he blush again in embarrassment.

"Did you feel good?" Zhang Lingyu looked at him. It seemed as though his eyes held a pool of emotion that could drown Wang Guangning.

Wang Guangning felt a little bashful, but nodded slightly anyway. He reached out and held Zhang Lingyu's face.

"I love you." Wang Guangning said.

"I love you too." Zhang Lingyu told him, and gave another kiss. There was a foreign taste in his mouth, but this was a flavour that belonged to the both of them.

"Let me help you as well." Wang Guangning could feel how Zhang Lingyu's member was still erect, and the tip kept rubbing against his inner thigh. The friction was starting to make him tremble.

"OK." Zhang Lingyu smiled, "Let's take a shower first."

ABG30D c49

Wang Guangning was half-carried by Zhang Lingyu into the bathroom. Zhang Lingyu turned on the shower and adjusted the temperature. Lukewarm water sprayed out, and wet the two men's bodies.

Wang Guangning's shirt was still hanging off him. Once it was soaked through, it appeared translucent and stuck to his body.

*** Page 2 is NSFW ***

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ABG30D c49

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Zhang Lingyu's breath stopped. He pressed Wang Guangning against the wall, and tore open his shirt. He exerted a lot of strength, so a few buttons were promptly torn off as well.

"You've spoilt my shirt. You'll have to pay me back." Wang Guangning was panting heavily as well. His back was crushed against the cold wall tiles, and it was uncomfortable.

"I'll use myself to pay you back." Zhang Lingyu said. He grinded a little against him, and bit on the front of Wang Guangning's chest.

"Hoo——" Wang Guangning was bitten till he was a little sore. He clutched Zhang Lingyu's shoulders: "Gentler."

He felt as though his lower half that had just released seemed to have a feeling again. He suddenly thought of something, and reached out to feel Zhang Lingyu's lower half. Indeed, it was still lively.

"I'll help you come, OK?" Wang Guangning said, about to exert strength with the hand that was grasping that part.

"OK, you'll help me." Zhang Lingyu said, but he moved Wang Guangning's hand away. While Wang Guangning was still puzzled, he gripped Wang Guangning's shoulders and flipped his whole person around, leaning him against the wall as he hugged him tightly from behind.

Only then did Wang Guangning realize what Zhang Lingyu was thinking of doing.

He wasn't against having such relations with Zhang Lingyu, but

"Lingyu" Wang Guangning wanted to turn around, but was held too tightly by Zhang Lingyu. He could only turn his head with some difficulty: "I"

The words were sealed in by Zhang Lingyu. The water from the shower kept spurting onto their bodies and their heads, and streams were flowing down the face into the mouth. A bizarre taste of water mixed with each other's flavours stimulated the insides of their mouths.

Wang Guangning's shirt had already been tossed to the floor and was a wet pile. Their two bodies clung together directly, and Zhang Lingyu's chest and stomach were pressed against Wang Guangning's smooth and bare back. Wang Guangning could even feel the lines of his abs.

As well as a certain fiery-hot part prodding against the hollow of his behind.

The water vapour in the bathroom had become rather dense, and the rising temperature stimulated their senses. The water streaming down made every part in contact with each other more and more slippery.

"I want you, Guangning." Zhang Lingyu whispered in Wang Guangning's ear, having endured to his very limit.

Wang Guangning felt that the part pushing against him had heated up to a pitiful degree. Knowing that he had been painfully enduring this torture, his heart softened: "Then, be quicker."

Once he received the decree [lit. amnesty], Zhang Lingyu was overjoyed. Pressing out a big dollop of shower gel, he slathered most of it onto Wang Guangning's body. His hands seemed to be flames — as they travelled all over Wang Guangning's body, each part they touched was set ablaze with a passion that had been so woefully suppressed.

Wang Guangning had never had his whole body caressed by anyone like this. In a flash, he felt parched, and his fair body flushed. Fortunately, much

of the redness was obscured by bubbles. That front part of his body once again stood up.

“You feel it again.” Zhang Lingyu laughed. His left hand lightly shook that sensitive part, and his right hand slowly pushed the rest of the shower gel into that deep and quiet part of his that no one had ever touched before.

A sensitive place that not even he himself had ever touched — now a slender finger had reached in. Wang Guangning froze for a moment, and that place naturally tightened and firmly sucked in Zhang Lingyu’s finger.

“Relax a little.” Zhang Lingyu said. It was his first time doing this kind of thing too. He was so nervous that he was sweating, and the sweat and warm water mingled as they dripped down together. “I’m afraid I’ll give you pain.”

Wang Guangning took a deep breath, and tried hard to relax himself.

Only then did Zhang Lingyu carefully attempt to open up the place again.

“Painful” Wang Guangning paled a little. He squeezed Zhang Lingyu’s hands. Dmn it, that place was so small, how on earth did those gays do it.

It was only a finger now. When it was switched for a real gun later, how was he going to bear it. Wang Guangning had a sudden desire to call a halt to everything.

“Just come in immediately!” Wang Guangning said in despair. It was going to hurt anyway, why not just do it immediately — why endure this uncomfortable foreplay!

Zhang Lingyu couldn’t help laughing: “If the foreplay is not done well, it’ll be too painful later.” Saying this, he added another finger in there.

Wang Guangning paled even more. His body started losing strength. That unbearable sensation made him feel weak, till he almost couldn’t stand straight.

Zhang Lingyu could feel Wang Guangning's discomfort. He was uncomfortable too — he had endured to his limit after all. How he wished he could charge ahead with the invasion. But still he endured for enough foreplay, and increased the number of fingers to three.

Wang Guangning felt as though he was going to be split apart. He took a deep breath, forced himself to look back, and said: "Kiss me."

Zhang Lingyu obeyed the order, and sucked tightly on those crimson petals. Their tongues tangled. The sounds from their mouths intermingled with the sounds from the shower, stirring up Zhang Lingyu to the point that he withdrew his fingers and leaned in.

"I love you, Guangning." He nibbled on Wang Guangning's blushing ears, and thrust in with his own heat source.

Well, isn't this a unique technique — dosing me with honey while you come in! Wang Guangning felt his body was being invaded inch by inch. Anxiously, he arched his body and grasped Zhang Lingyu's arms, which were encircling his waist.

"Is it painful?" Having entered one-third of himself, Zhang Lingyu was about to lose control, but couldn't help feel bad for Wang Guangning.

What could be more torturous than this very scenario!

Hurts! Like! Hell!

Wang Guangning wanted to rage, why on earth did gays like to do this kind of thing!

"Cut the crap and finish this!" Wang Guangning gnashed his teeth.

Zhang Lingyu continued to advance. That remote, restricted place was tightly sucking him in, giving him a thrill but no satisfaction, leaving him wanting more.

"Are you done yet!" Wang Guangning felt as though he was going to collapse. Why was it so rough, so long!

“Yup, it’s all in, finally.” Zhang Lingyu let out a breath and brought Wang Guangning’s hand over to feel where the two were connected.

Who wants to touch this!

Wang Guangning’s body was as red as a thoroughly cooked prawn.

Roughly pulling back his hand, Wang Guangning began to pant. That huge object had not only made him feel bloated — after the initial pain, a mysterious pleasure somehow sprang up. It was an inexplicable feeling of being filled up and satisfied.

“Guangning, I can’t endure it anymore.” Zhang Lingyu finally lost it, and firmly pulled out, then thrust in again.

Zhang Lingyu, I’m going make you die with me!

Isn’t this just tearing my whole body apart?

Images of fighting to the death with Zhang Lingyu flitted across Wang Guangning’s mind. This was followed by his whole body falling under the control of Zhang Lingyu’s crazed rhythm.

Pain-pain-pain-pain-pain!

Wang Guangning was rammed until tears welled up. He grabbed Zhang Lingyu’s arm and bit down viciously.

Zhang Lingyu was bitten, but the pain that travelled up his arm somehow stimulated his innate sexual desire — he pulled out fully, then used all his might to thrust back in.

Wang Guangning had been thrust into a daze, and finally shouted.

It was clearly painful, but the pleasure of being filled to the brim by the one you love made Wang Guangning unable to stop. He didn’t know how to describe this feeling of joy enmeshed with suffering. He could only let his body be rocked along to Zhang Lingyu’s rhythm, like a little boat tossed about a stormy sea.

Water continued to shower on their bodies, as Zhang Lingyu's movement became ever wilder.

And Wang Guangning slowly began to feel a trace of pleasure from this jolting that was veering so close to abuse. He was about to pass out; his body felt so weak. He couldn't just let Zhang Lingyu handle him however he pleased — he suspected he might lose control of his legs.

“Too it's too deep” Wang Guangning panted.

Wang Guangning had already been swallowed up by pleasure, unable to make out his voice. That part of his was as hard as steel, pounding Wang Guangning to the point of deep discomfort.

Wang Guangning didn't know how long he had been going at it. He felt as though he was a little boat tumbling up and down in the tumult of a raging storm. It was only gradually that the pleasure grew to the point that he could savour it and want to taste it again, a pleasure that flourished with the pain, a pleasure that could drown you.

“I I'm going to come” Zhang Lingyu propped his chin on Wang Guangning's shoulder, his chest heaving.

“Not inside.” Wang Guangning could feel him swell a bit more, and hurriedly pushed him away. He turned around and faced Zhang Lingyu.

Zhang Lingyu ejaculated at that moment. The white, sticky liquid was shot onto Wang Guangning's lower abdomen, and slowly dripped down with the shower gel.

This scene sent a thrill through the both of them. Zhang Lingyu couldn't hold back from embracing Wang Guangning tightly. Wang Guangning's body had been slicked up with shower gel, so he felt rather slippery, but this bewildering sensation was also very pleasurable. The parts of them that had just found release were pressed against each other, and Wang Guangning could feel that Zhang Lingyu was beginning to have a reaction again.

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Zhang Lingyu breathed roughly: “Shower first, and one more round next!” As he said this, he reached for the shower head, and began to help Wang Guangning rinse his body.

Wang Guangning touched his thing, and smiled: “Just once. I’m afraid I can’t get up tomorrow.”

After rinsing Wang Guangning, Zhang Lingyu took a large towel to rub their bodies dry. Then he carried Wang Guangning again, back to his own room.

Zhang Lingyu’s bed was very big. Although it was summer, a thick mattress and soft blanket was laid out on it. He took the remote control and adjusted the air-conditioning to the lowest temperature.

Like this, Wang Guangning lay prone on the cosy bed. His figure was slender; his skin tone was fair. With his whole person flat on the bed, he seemed like a stranded mermaid. His back still bore the marks of the previous bout of passion, covered with red love bites and pinch marks.

The air-conditioning blew on his body, raising little goose-pimples. He let out a comfortable breath.

He was still savouring the pleasure from before. His breathing hadn’t settled yet, and his body followed its rise and fall.

Zhang Lingyu’s gaze heated up, and pressed down on him with his whole body.

“Go away, too heavy.” Wang Guangning muttered, but despite his words, he didn’t really push away Zhang Lingyu.

The two of them clung together like this without a thread on. Their freshly showered bodies still gave off the scent of the shower gel, and this embrace brought them such pleasure.

Zhang Lingyu lightly licked Wang Guangning’s ear lobe. Moved, he said: “Guangning, I feel so happy.”

Wang Guangning's ears flushed, and he softly agreed.

"When did you first begin to like me?" Zhang Lingyu asked.

"I'm also not sure" Wang Guangning buried his head in a pillow. "I only know it's been for a long, long time"

"We're real fools!" Continuing to pursue the question of who liked whom first was no longer important. The most important thing was, the two of them would live their lives together ever after.

Zhang Lingyu traced Wang Guangning's neck with kisses, down the curve of his spine, slowly all the way.

Wang Guangning began to breathe more heavily.

"You want it again." Zhang Lingyu chuckled. His hand felt the front of Wang Guangning, and held the part that was prodding against the blanket.

"What nonsense, aren't you the same?" Wang Guangning (#`) . Any man would get erect in the face of such teasing. Don't think I can't feel that beast of yours poking my thigh.

Zhang Lingyu stroked that thing of his, and went to take a look at the part that had been explored by him. He found that it was a little inflamed.

"It's swollen." He touched that part, and felt so sorry.

Rubbish, of course it would be like this the first time.

Wang Guangning simply buried his head back in the pillow. It was driving him mad: "So are you going to do it or not!"

Zhang Lingyu gave a light laugh. Wang Guangning was usually so proud, but he was in fact an especially attentive person.

"I can't bear to." He said, "I won't go in this time."

Wang Guangning was confused, then felt Zhang Lingyu pull his feet close together. His legs were long and straight. When they were pressed together, there was just about no space between them.

Zhang Lingyu then held his desire and jabbed it into the hollow of Wang Guangning's thighs. He began to thrust in and out.

So it can be done like this

Feeling the clear and thrilling impact from his thighs, Wang Guangning blushed again. But because there wasn't the pain from before, this grinding stimulated his front till it was full of vigour. He couldn't bear it any longer, and reached out to comfort himself.

The temperature in the room became lower and lower, while the two bodies became more and more feverish.

This sort of pleasure didn't come purely from the flesh, but also from the connection of their hearts and souls.

The one you have loved for so very long, whom you thought you wouldn't be able to touch for your whole life — he was finally, utterly, completely yours!

ABG30D c50

The two of them did it deep into the night. When their strength finally gave out, they fell into each other's embrace and slept deeply.

The next morning, Wang Guangning was groggy when he woke up. Sensing he was in an unfamiliar bedroom, he was stunned for a moment before he realized this was Zhang Lingyu's room.

Zhang Lingyu wasn't beside him — he must have got up first, and couldn't bear to wake him up, so he went out first.

Just as well — when Wang Guangning recalled their madness the night before, the tips of his ears burned a little. But even so, he felt inexpressibly joyful.

Finally, they belonged to each other!

Wang Guangning moved slightly — and a strong ache emanated from his waist.

Fck! Dmn you, Zhang Lingyu!

Wang Guangning muttered some curses under his breath, and held his waist as he gingerly got down the bed.

Zhang Lingyu had the master bedroom, which was a lot bigger than Wang Guangning's room. It even had full-length windows opening out to a small balcony, though those were covered at the moment by thick curtains, so the whole room was very dark.

Wang Guangning slowly made his way to the windows and pulled aside the curtains. Bright sunshine streamed in and lit up the entire room.

The bedroom was really large, but the design was quite simple. There was only one closet, which had a door with a full-length mirror. Wang Guangning caught a glimpse of himself in it, and discovered he was still naked. Traces of the night before were still on his body, appearing so improper that he couldn't bear to look directly.

Wang Guangning blushed, opened the closet, and randomly grabbed a T-shirt and trousers belonging to Zhang Lingyu. Only when he wore them did he feel more at ease, and continued sizing up Zhang Lingyu's room.

Near the door was a long desk against the wall. The desk was laden with documents and stationery, and there was also a black reading lamp. Above the desk was a bookcase fixed to the wall, and it was full of books.

Wang Guangning was a little curious about the kinds of books Zhang Lingyu would read, so he stood next to the bookcase, and began perusing the titles.

Zhang Lingyu had eclectic taste; there were novels, there were essays, and there were also quite a few specialist books on management and finance — there were even a number of encyclopaedias.

Wang Guangning was poring over everything with great interest, seemingly entranced, when he came to a sudden stop. At the lower right corner of the bookcase, squeezed into a square cubbyhole, was a row of books about Taiwan.

Local conditions and customs of Taiwan, famous educational institutions of Taiwan, travel guides to Taiwan, directories of businesses in Taiwan, even Taiwanese dialect study guides.

Wang Guangning's breath caught. An emotion he couldn't quite explain welled up in his heart.

At the very end of the row of books was a clear document pouch.

Wang Guangning didn't ever pry into other people's privacy, but this time, he couldn't help himself and pulled out that pouch.

The pouch was stuffed with all kinds of forms, including application forms. Wang Guangning flipped through them, and saw a completed request form for a transfer to Huidi International's Taiwan branch. At the end of the form was Zhang Lingyu's signature, and the form was dated not long before his own return.

So, if he hadn't returned at that time, Zhang Lingyu would have gone to work in Taiwan?

Wang Guangning felt overwhelmed, and his eyes reddened.

Right then, the bedroom door opened, and Zhang Lingyu tiptoed in.

"You're awake!" When Zhang Lingyu saw Wang Guangning standing beside the bookcase, he let out a breath, and laughed: "You must be exhausted — wanna sleep a bit more?"

Wang Guangning gaze was fixed on him, sending him waves of warmth from his eyes.

Zhang Lingyu shivered a little, then realized what Wang Guangning was holding in his hands. Embarrassed, he grabbed the document pouch back: "Why are you looking at this?"

Just as he'd haphazardly stuffed all the documents back into the pouch and was turning away, Wang Guangning took the initiative to cling to his shoulders: "You'd prepared to go work in Taiwan?"

Zhang Lingyu sighed softly, and gently held him by the cheek: "If you still hadn't returned, I would've had to go and look for you."

Because of political issues, if it wasn't for an official reason like work or student exchange, it was really difficult for Mainlanders to stay long-term in Taiwan. Though Zhang Lingyu had wanted to go look for Wang Guangning in Taiwan, he didn't have a way of contacting Wang Guangning. If he'd gone on a trip on his own, he might not have had enough time to locate Wang Guangning. And even if he did find him, he wouldn't have had enough time to pursue him properly.

When he'd finally sorted out the fact that he was in love with Wang Guangning, he'd applied to join the university's student exchange programme. But the deadline was already over, so he could only place his hope on work.

To be honest, he'd been prepared for a protracted war.

He hadn't been sure how Wang Guangning felt about him, not even whether Wang Guangning would like men. The only way was to find opportunities to be by his side, and slowly take up space in his life.

Wang Guangning fell silent, then sealed his lips directly.

Zhang Lingyu couldn't help himself as well, and seized him by the waist.

"Sss——" Wang Guangning sucked in his breath lightly, and only then did Zhang Lingyu come back to his senses.

"Hurts?" Zhang Lingyu's heart was aching as he brought Wang Guangning over to the bed and laid him down. "Let me take a look." "It's nothing." Wang Guangning wanted to kick him away. A grown man not being able to get out of bed because of *that* — it wasn't in line with his macho image, OK?

Zhang Lingyu couldn't help laughing, and caught the leg that was giving him a light kick. He shook a bottle of medicated salve that was in his hand: "This is medicine I just bought. It'll heal quicker if you apply it." Saying that, he pressed down Wang Guangning's still-struggling legs, and added: "Don't move, my heart will ache."

Wang Guangning stopped — then gave up and hid his face with a pillow.

Zhang Lingyu pulled down the trousers on Wang Guangning, saying as he did so: "Yeah, we're a match made in heaven indeed. My clothes fit you just right."

"Why do you have so much rubbish to spout." Wang Guangning took off the pillow and tapped Zhang Lingyu on the head with it. But then he caught

sight of his exposed *ahem* —, as well as Zhang Lingyu's serious expression as he pulled his legs apart to examine his *ahem*.

With the sunshine streaming in, the secret place was completely exposed to Zhang Lingyu — the feeling of shame made Wang Guangning's handsome face blush till it could bleed.

The night before, the two of them had taken mad possession of each other, but in the throes of passion, they wouldn't have scrutinized each other. To be so frank with his body with Zhang Lingyu was something that Wang Guangning couldn't quite accept yet.

"It's swollen good thing it didn't bleed." Zhang Lingyu's heartache was clear to see. He opened the cover of the new bottle of medicated salve, scooped out some of the green ointment with his middle finger, then gently applied it to the part of Wang Guangning that had been hurt. He even slowly inserted some of it into the folds [i.e., of the *ahem*].

That secret place of his body was invaded again. Although it was for an apparently proper reason, Wang Guangning just wanted to disappear right there and then.

"*Hng hng* hurts" Wang Guangning gave Zhang Lingyu another light kick: "It's all your fault."

"Yup, my fault." Having had his fill, Zhang Lingyu was willing to bear all the blame. After applying the medicine and making sure Wang Guangning had put his trousers on properly, he climbed onto the bed again and embraced him from behind.

"I love you." Even though he'd said this many times over the night, the moment he saw him, he felt as though he hadn't said it enough.

So this is what it's like to be in love. Happiness was filling his heart to the point of pain — only the use of language could release some of the strain.

The two of them laid in bed like that, with the sunlight on their bodies. Wang Guangning felt that simply this was the happiest thing on earth.

Of course, no matter how much happiness one felt, it couldn't fill the belly.

So it was, that Zhang Lingyu heard Wang Guangning's tummy give a loud rumble.

"Hungry already?" Zhang Lingyu couldn't help smiling. He kissed him on the cheek: "I'll go cook for you. You sleep a bit more."

"Oh no!" Feeling famished made Wang Guangning aware of something: "What time is it now? There's work today"

"Almost noon." Zhang Lingyu didn't agree that the person should get up, and pressed him down again: "I'll help you send a message to the company to request for leave."

Hearing this, Wang Guangning allowed himself to lie down again. Honestly, he wasn't sure if he could have gone to work like this.

Zhang Lingyu got up, and pulled the floor-length curtains shut. The room was in darkness again. Then, he left to start cooking.

Wang Guangning continued to snuggle in the blanket like a little piggy. He buried himself completely in the blanket, with only his head peeking out, as he looked round the room.

This was Zhang Lingyu's room. Zhang Lingyu's bed. The blanket and pillows all had Zhang Lingyu's scent.

Wang Guangning was filled with satisfaction. Yeah, from today onwards, he was going to have his scent fill this place too.

He silently plotted, and then fell asleep again.

Two hours later, Wang Guangning was woken up by Zhang Lingyu. He was a little groggy, and swiped a paw at Zhang Lingyu: "Don't be noisy."

"Time to eat." Zhang Lingyu kissed him on the corner of his mouth, and pulled him up, holding him in a hug as he got him out of bed.

Wang Guangning was fully awake at last after all the fussing. He gave a stretch and padded barefoot to the bathroom to brush his teeth and wash his face.

After washing up and getting to the dining area, he saw a table crowded with his favourite dishes.

Wang Guangning had been done over and over again the whole night, and was starving right now. With a yowl, he pounced on the food.

Zhang Lingyu quickly held him back, brought out a cushion seemingly out of nowhere, and laid it on a chair: "Sit here."

Wang Guangning flushed red, and roared: "*Laozi* is very strong, don't need a cushion."

Zhang Lingyu hugged him, dotingly: "It'll hurt."

"Not at all!" How could a macho man be so troubled by a little thing that he needed to sit on a cushion!" Wang Guangning looked away and ignored Zhang Lingyu.

"Then sit on my lap." Zhang Lingyu saw that Wang Guangning wasn't going to compromise, so he tossed out an alternative proposal.

But how would he be able to eat easily?

Wang Guangning really had his doubts!

And so, after weighing the two options, he sat on the cushion reluctantly.

It was indeed much more comfortable. Wang Guangning's dissatisfaction eased off a little, and he soon fell into the embrace of good cuisine.

When he was just about done, Zhang Lingyu put down his chopsticks and looked seriously at him: "Guangning, after this, let's move your things over!"

Wang Guangning's body wasn't in the best condition right now, but he was going to work tomorrow. If he didn't move tonight, he would have to wait a week. Zhang Lingyu couldn't wait a single day more.

Wang Guangning had drunk and eaten to his heart's content. The blood had all rushed to his stomach, so his mind took some time to catch up. Hearing his words, he looked blankly at Zhang Lingyu: "Huh?"

"Huh, what huh!" Zhang Lingyu tapped his forehead. "You're all mine, so from now on, we have to live together, and of course you have to shift your things into my room!"

"What do you mean I'm all yours?" Saying it as though he'd been taken as a mistress — he was a man of principle; he still wanted face. Wang Guangning was already displeased by losing out on *that* matter [i.e., bottoming], so hearing these words ruffled his feathers immediately.

Cough Throwing a tantrum again — Zhang Lingyu found he had this perverse habit of rather enjoying Wang Guangning's tantrums. But to stop when ahead was the mark of a hero, so he changed his tone right away, waving his hands as he said: "All right, then it's me who's all yours. You can't seduce then abandon me!"

As a *gong*, everything was fine as long as he held the alpha position in bed; paying lip service to *Shoushou* was certainly no problem!

Zhang Lingyu felt he'd completely mastered the essence of being a loyal dog!

Seeing that Zhang Lingyu knew his place, Wang Guangning felt his bad mood dissipate: "Let's move then!"

So it was, that after finishing the meal, Wang Guangning lounged on his own bed comfortably as he directed Coolie Zhang making the move to his room.

“Hey, careful, don’t crease the shirt” While Wang Guangning was playing on his iPad, he also found time to give the side-eye to Zhang Lingyu.

“Don’t touch the documents; I’ll use this space to work.” Wang Guangning saw that Zhang Lingyu was about to collect the things on the desk, so he stopped him in a hurry. The two of them had become intimate, but it was enough just to live together — better to do their work apart.

“Oh by the way, should Dafa move together with me?” Wang Guangning asked. After all, it was their common property.

Zhang Lingyu gave it a thought, then shook his head: “No, it’s embarrassing to let our son watch us do *this* and *that*.”

Wang Guangning: “.....” Why had he expected Zhang Lingyu to have a normal thought process.

“The suits must be hung properly, one by one.” Fck, the Wall-nuts were nearly all eaten up — Wang Guangning rushed to add one in front of the zombie pack, but didn’t forget to remind Zhang Lingyu: “Place our underwear separately”

“What does it matter, I’ve already ‘worn’ your body, letting me wear your underwear shouldn’t be a problem!” Zhang Lingyu gave an indecent wink.

Wang Guangning flushed red: “Next time, I’m the one ‘wearing’ you!”

Zhang Lingyu hurriedly shut his mouth, and obediently separated the ties, socks, underwear, and other bits and pieces.

“Eh, *Shoushou*, so you still have these pyjamas!”

Wang Guangning raised his head, and saw that Zhang Lingyu was lifting up a set of yellow fleece pyjamas. It was the set that he’d given him four years ago.

Blushing slightly, Wang Guangning feigned nonchalance: “Yup, because it’s SpongeBob SquarePants.”

Zhang Lingyu looked at him tenderly. Like a big dog, he leapt on the bed, and put his head right up to Wang Guangning: “SpongeBob SquarePants is more important, or me?”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Brushing that person’s head away disdainfully, he said: “Don’t compare yourself to SpongeBob SquarePants. Hurry up and pack.”

That person refused to leave, and pushed his lips forward: “Then you kiss me for a while.”

Could you be any more childish?

Wang Guangning rolled his eyes, but ended up giving a light kiss. Then that person grabbed the chance to hold on to his head and deepen the kiss.

When the two of them parted, all of Wang Guangning’s plants had been gobbled up by the zombies.

“Fck! Zhang Lingyu, I wanna let the zombies loose on your brains [wordplay: same term for head]!”

ABG30D c51

And so, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu officially began a true cohabitation, living a life of no shame and no trouble?

Pooh, of course it wouldn't be so smooth!

Certainly, it was Zhang Lingyu's expectation that, since they had at long last expressed their true feelings, and even had intimate relations, of course they should from now on indulge in 'music and song' nightly, since the night of a rendezvous was always too short, etc.

But the truth was that Wang Guangning was promptly sucked into endless overtime work.

Zhang Lingyu knew that Fumaokaisi was planning to establish a foothold in the mainland. As the marketing manager, it was natural for Wang Guangning to have a heavy workload. But for the workload to be so massive that he had to work till midnight every night — wasn't it too absurd? There was even one time he had to pull an all-nighter!

Zhang Lingyu felt sorry for Wang Guangning. So every night, he would prepare supper that would be ready for him on arrival. But a few times, Wang Guangning was so tired that he didn't have an appetite, and went straight to bed.

"Lingyu, I'm still going to be busy over this case. You don't have to wait up for me every day." A few times, Wang Guangning saw that Zhang Lingyu had fallen asleep on the sofa while waiting for him — he couldn't bear this too.

"No wife to hug, so can't sleep soundly!" Zhang Lingyu pulled him into his embrace: "This is my benefit, you can't deprive me of it."

Wang Guangning was so exhausted that he didn't have the mood to persuade him. He took a quick shower and was about to head off to sleep.

"Eat something first!" Zhang Lingyu carried a bowl of egg-drop soup to him. Food eaten at night shouldn't be too oily, yet he was afraid that Wang Guangning would be hungry, so he cooked a lighter soup.

Wang Guangning happened to be a little thirsty, so he accepted the soup and drank it all.

"I'll brush your teeth for you." Zhang Lingyu waited till he'd finished, before pressing in with his lips, and using the tip of his tongue to sweep across all his teeth.

Wang Guangning hugged him in response.

"Do it or not?" Wang Guangning was aroused till he was just about ready for action.

Though Zhang Lingyu also wanted it, he shook his head in the end: "Sleep earlier. You still have to work tomorrow."

Zhang Lingyu went off to wash the dishes, and Wang Guangning to brush his teeth. When the two of them were done, Zhang Lingyu brought Wang Guangning to bed.

When they lay down, Wang Guangning let out a breath comfortably.

"Why busy to this extent?" Zhang Lingyu couldn't help frowning.

Because their two companies were in the same industry, there was definitely competition between them, so all this time, Zhang Lingyu hadn't asked about Wang Guangning's situation. But now, he felt too bad to hold back anymore.

Wang Guangning didn't intend to be on guard against Zhang Lingyu, and said: "During this period, we've been discussing distributorship matters. There's usually a lot to handle anyway, but not long ago, two of my

marketing staff were poached by DM China. Their work was all dumped on me, so naturally there's too much to do."

Zhang Lingyu's eyes twitched — he recalled that Wang Guangning had a grand total of two staff members under him: "You're saying DM China poached all your staff — it's so easy to poach your staff?"

It's known that Fumaokaisi's salaries and benefits weren't considered low for the industry.

Wang Guangning gave a mild smile: "Yup, doubled the salary, so they both left."

The corner of Zhang Lingyu's mouth quirked. He himself specialized in HR, so of course he understood what doubling the salary meant: "Something's wrong with DM China? Doubling the salary to poach two junior staff?"

When luring staff over, an increase in salary would usually be restricted to 15 to 30 percent. As this concerned labour costs and fair pay, even an exceptional talent would rarely get anything beyond this range. An increase beyond 30 percent would need special permission from the head office.

Only when the one being poached had been getting a salary far below the industry average, or the company was in urgent need of talent, could there be an increase beyond 50 percent. As for double

Zhang Lingyu had been hiring for his company for a long time, but he'd yet to come across a boss who could hire someone in this way. The reason was simple — every department had a set budget, and the department's salaries were all included in the costs for the boss. Usually, bosses would rather give up talented people than to let those under them eat up too much of their costs.

DM China was an established enterprise. Why would it make such a wrong-headed move?

Zhang Lingyu expressed how puzzling it was.

Wang Guangning said: “Do you know who’s the marketing manager of DM China’s southern China branch?”

Zhang Lingyu quickly went through the list of industry names in his mind. As an HR manager, he was quite clear about the various heads of department in the industry: “Xu Guohui?”

“Yup.”

Zhang Lingyu realized right away: “You’re saying that Xu Guohui is intentionally attacking you?”

Wang Guangning said: “If he wasn’t attacking me intentionally, I can’t understand why he would spend twice the amount of money to poach the people under me.”

It was very common to switch jobs within an industry. What’s more, the other party had offered such a huge benefit.

Wang Guangning didn’t blame his staff for going to DM China. What was more troublesome was that the distributor he was in talks with was also a big distributor with DM China — this put him at a big disadvantage.

“Fck, Xu-the-Dick must be sick! Is it his job to bite handsome guys?” Xu Guohui had once tarred Wang Guangning on their school forum, and was crowned with the moniker, “F Uni’s No. 1 Loser”. Zhang Lingyu already had a poor impression of him, calling him Xu-the-Dick this and Xu-the-Dick that. Now, he was even more certain of his judgement that he was acting out of jealousy.

Wang Guangning was tickled by Zhang Lingyu’s expressions, and laughed lightly. He pulled Zhang Lingyu’s arms around him more tightly (Author: That’s right, he was hugged and hugged by Zhang Little-Gong so often that he was no longer afraid of feeling ticklish): “Who knows? Now HR and the headhunters are urgently scouting for staff for me, but there hasn’t been anyone really suitable within such a short timeframe. And they must even be familiar with how DM China’s distributors supply materials.”

Zhang Lingyu kissed Wang Guangning's neck: "No hurry, do it slowly — you rest well."

"OK." Wang Guangning couldn't stand it much longer — after saying that, he fell asleep.

Wang Guangning had originally been prepared to fight a protracted war. But who knew that after a few days, HR called him ecstatically to tell him that two of DM China's marketing staff had taken the initiative to apply for positions in their company. Interviews were arranged with the marketing department that very day.

Wang Guangning met the two staff members.

It turned out that DM China's marketing department didn't have that heavy a workload. When Xu Guohui hired two more people at once, it resulted in a further division of power. This already caused unhappiness, so when they also heard that those two had come in on double their salary, the two existing staff members were instantly furious.

Xu Guohui was a harsh boss. When he'd first hired them, he'd suppressed their salaries, and when challenged, only gave an increase of about 5 percent. But since DM China was a brand name, they swallowed it down.

After entering DM China, they found that Xu Guohui was someone who got envious whenever someone displayed their strengths, and wouldn't let them touch anything to do with the core of the business. They were already carrying a lot of resentment, and now when the department absolutely didn't need new staff, he'd invited two 'respected bodhisattvas' — what existing staff would be able to accept this!

They were already looking for other opportunities, but as DM China was quite high-level, they hadn't expected to be able to find something better to jump to. Who would've known that, just then, Fumaokaisi would be looking for people, so they sent over their CVs.

Wang Guangning had a chat with the two of them, and found that they were quite high-quality. The abilities of one called Yu Jing already qualified him for a promotion, and more importantly, they were both very familiar with DM China's style of working with distributors.

On the spot, Wang Guangning gave the two an offer — each person to have a 20 percent raise, and one of them would be promoted to senior staff.

Those two were naturally overjoyed, and went to Xu Guohui straightaway to resign.

Xu Guohui was enraged — then and there, he promised to double their salaries to make them stay.

Those two staff members had the impression of being smacked by banknotes in the middle of walking. But the one called Yu Jing, who was offered a promotion by Wang Guangning — after some deliberation, he decided to resign anyway and went to Fumaokaisi.

The other staff member gave a call to Wang Guangning, telling him what Xu Guohui had offered. His intention was very simple — personally, he didn't want to continue working under Xu Guohui, but DM China's salary was too tempting. If Fumaokaisi was willing to increase his salary even more, he would still consider Fumaokaisi.

Wang Guangning felt at that moment that Xu Guohui had truly gone mad. He gave a polite reply to that staff: "I'm sorry, but my company's budget only allows for this amount of increase. You should weigh the pros and cons for yourself — is it the salary that attracts you, or your future development in this area."

That staff member hemmed and hawed for a while, but finally chose to stay at DM China. After all, on the matter of doubling his salary, no other company would be able to offer this.

The staff called Yu Jing took up his post very soon. After that, the headhunters recommended a few more people. Wang Guangning

interviewed them and decided upon someone who once held a post at Huidi International.

Getting the staff onboard so quickly soon eased the pressure on Wang Guangning. It was especially the arrival of Yu Jing, who was familiar with how DM China worked with distributors, that led to them redoubling their strength.

When the weekend came, Wang Guangning could finally rest for a whole day. So, before the break, he invited the two new staff and his own assistant for a meal.

“Kinsley, from what I know, Xu Guohui had offered to double your salary. Why didn’t you continue at DM China?” Wang Guangning asked Yu Jing curiously. Although they hadn’t worked together for long, Yu Jing was a clever and capable person, and even more commendably, he wasn’t prideful despite being favoured for his abilities, but was quite down-to-earth. Wang Guangning admired him a lot.

Yu Jing smiled: “I’ve worked with Xu Guohui for two years, and he’d never given me a promotion or a raise. For him to give me so much suddenly, it scared me.”

“Pooh——” The other new staff member, Wei Yiwen, choked when he heard this: “There’s someone who’s scared of a raise?”

Yu Jing solemnly said: “Of course it’s scary. Xu Guohui wants to attack Fumaokaisi now, so he’s surely willing to spend money on me. But once this is over, who knows how long I can stay under him what’s more” Yu Jing paused, and glanced at Wang Guangning: “I feel that Boss Wang has more foresight. Though he didn’t offer me a lot of money, he gave me a promotion. You’ve got to know, during my two years at DM China, DM’s market share increased by 20 percent, but Xu Guohui never promoted me.”

Wei Yiwen heard this and went, “Oh——that’s right, a good boss is more important. I also feel that Brother Ning does things reliably. Come, Brother Ning, let me toast you.”

Wang Guangning looked gloomy [lit. had a face full of black lines] as he received the toast: “No bootlicking.”

Wei Yiwen seriously replied: “How can the boots not be licked — Brother Ning, you’re my boss, from the very day I joined Fumaokaisi, I told myself, I must use my life to lick your boots!”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Yu Jing: “.....”

Assistant: “.....”

Wang Guangning turned to his assistant: “Give a shout to HR, tell them to fire Evan next week. Since he’s still under probation, there’s no need for compensation.”

Wei Yiwen immediately leapt forward and latched onto his thigh [a metaphor for toadying, but he literally did it]: “I’m wrong, Brother Ning, I have old and young ones to feed, you mustn’t fire me even if you do fire me, you must wait till probation is over — at least there’s compensation!”

Wang Guangning’s eyes twitched: “Not firing you is fine, but you have to promise me one thing.”

Wei Yiwen’s eyes immediately glittered: “Brother Ning, say it — as long as you don’t fire me, even risking my life is no problem.”

“Then for this year’s company annual dinner, you’re in charge of our department’s performance.” At past annual dinners, because the marketing staff were rather dull, even though they spent a long time discussing what to perform, they always ended up reciting a poem. This year with Wei Yiwen, this joker — just hand the trouble over to him.

“Accepted!” Wei Yiwen clapped his hands, and continued to eat.

“But I’m quite curious, how did Kinsley come to submit his CV to our company?” Usually, the relationship between competitors required more

sensitivity, so it was rare for staff to pay direct attention to opportunities from the other side — most were hired through the recommendations of headhunters.

Yu Jing said: “This was quite interesting — actually, a headhunter had recommended me to Huidi International’s sales department. I’m not interested in sales, but I didn’t want to stay under Xu Guohui, so I wanted to check out the conditions at Huidi. I happened to have a chat with their HR’s Manager Zhang, and Manager Zhang mentioned that Fumaokaisi was looking for marketing staff. So, I came over.”

Wang Guangning raised his brows: “Zhang Lingyu’s recommendation?”

“You know Manager Zhang?” Yu Jing smiled. “Not really a recommendation. Manager Zhang is quite good, and very well-known in the industry. His professionalism is top-notch — after a chat, he also felt that I wasn’t suitable for sales, but since Huidi’s marketing department didn’t have a vacancy, he mentioned Fumaokaisi.”

Wang Guangning mysteriously laughed a little.

“Manager Zhang is truly, freaking awesome!” Wei Yiwen interrupted as he ate: “Previously, he was the one who hired me for Huidi, and after I left, he even gave me quite a few suggestions on how to develop my career. Heheh, actually, before I came to Fumaokaisi, I asked for his opinion. He was very supportive, so there was no turning back for me — I ran all the way here to latch onto Brother Ning’s thigh.”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Yu Jing: “Evan, eat some more.”

ABG30D c52

The 28th Event of Being Gay: Watch a concert together, and at the most moving part, tell each other, “I love you.”

In the middle of the meal, Wang Guangning received a call from Zhang Lingyu: “Beloved Ning, when are you coming home, huh!”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Wang Guangning: “Speak properly [lit. like a human being].”

Zhang Lingyu: “I miss you.”

Wang Guangning: “OK, I’m almost done with the meal, will go home soon.”

Hanging up, he saw Yu Jing, Wei Yiwen, and his assistant staring agape at him. Wei Yiwen was eager for gossip: “Brother Ning, your partner?”

Wang Guangning rested his chin on one hand: “One question, 100 dollars. Wanna ask?”

Wei Yiwen wailed: “Brother Ning, are you from Somalia [i.e., impoverished, I guess]? Not asking!”

The question was brushed aside casually just like that. When Wang Guangning got home, he saw Zhang Lingyu had already showered and was waiting for him in the living room in a pair of new pyjamas.

All this wasn’t the main point. The main point was ——

Why was Patrick Star on his new pyjamas?!

And what was he playing at, wearing fleece pyjamas on such a hot day? At a time when energy conservation was recommended, wasting air-conditioning like this!

Wang Guangning couldn't help but clutch his forehead.

"*Shoushou!*" Zhang Lingyu flew over and hugged him, starting a round of entanglement in a wet French kiss.

"Day off tomorrow?" Zhang Lingyu waggled his eyebrows. Not easy to come by at all!

"Yup." Come to think of it, to be able to have a day off so soon was all thanks to Zhang Lingyu. Otherwise, he couldn't have hired the right people so quickly. With this thought, the Patrick Star pyjamas on him looked more tolerable. "I'm going to take a shower first."

This must surely be a hint that he wants a round!

Zhang Lingyu whooped with joy in his heart, but kept a serene expression: "I'll bring you your clothes."

Wang Guangning didn't take notice of his heated expression, and went straight to the bathroom. Before long, Zhang Lingyu also entered, with that pair of SpongeBob SquarePants pyjamas in hand.

Wang Guangning was irritated: "It's too hot right now, I don't want to wear this!"

Zhang Lingyu felt wronged: "But this is a testimony of our love." As he said this, he tugged at the Patrick Star on his body: "Look, it's even a couple outfit!"

Who on earth told you that Patrick Star and SpongeBob SquarePants were lovers?

Wang Guangning was being driven mad: "Let you choose — either you take off those pyjamas on you, or I'm going to sleep in my own room tonight!"

Fck, the power of this threat could match an atom bomb!

Zhang Lingyu immediately feigned bashfulness: “So annoying, I just knew *Shoushou* wanted to see someone without a stitch on

Wang Guangning was expressionless as he picked up the showerhead and aimed it straight at Zhang Lingyu.

“*Shoushou*, I was wrong!” Zhang Lingyu put on a woebegone look as he ran back to the bedroom and took off the pyjamas, leaving only his underwear on.

Before long, Wang Guangning also returned to the room, and he was also only wearing his underwear.

Zhang Lingyu was sitting on the bed, and tilted his body back slightly, his arms stretched out behind him. He looked at his sturdy, flawless figure, and raised his eyebrows: “Sure enough, it’s our muscles that make the best couple outfits.”

Wang Guangning walked over and knelt over him, wrapped two hands around his shoulders, and lowered his head to suckle his lips.

Because work had been too busy, the two of them had not done it properly for a month. Now that the atmosphere was just right, the two of them quickly began panting.

Zhang Lingyu was conveniently lying on the bed, and Wang Guangning was sitting on his waist. Their underwear had already tented up, with a small wet patch in the centre.

“Wanna try this position?” Zhang Lingyu looked up at Wang Guangning. This position was not bad, should be quite thrilling.

Wang Guangning rubbed against him a few times, and blushed a little: “You want to?”

Why are you talking at such a time!

Zhang Lingyu pulled Wang Guangning down at one go, and had him lie on his chest. He laughed profoundly: “Off-day tomorrow~”

With the assistance of Yu Jing and Wei Yiwen, Wang Guangning quickly came to an agreement with DM China’s distributors, and even signed a contract that was particularly beneficial.

With DM China’s market carved up, DM China’s head office was furious, and Xu Guohui was in a rage as well. Taking advantage of how their probation period wasn’t over yet, he found an excuse to fire the two marketing staff he’d poached from Fumaokaisi.

That staff member who had been persuaded to stay by a high salary was deeply regretful. He didn’t know whether Xu Guohui would also fire him in a fit, so he started sending out his CV again.

Wang Guangning had led the marketing department to a great achievement for Fumaokaisi. Boss Zhou was very pleased, and sent a mass email of praise to the whole company. He also signed off on a two-day holiday for the marketing department, and approved expenses for them to tour Hong Kong.

While the reason given was a tour, this also meant Wang Guangning was to visit their client in Hong Kong.

That’s why it’s said that capitalists are vampires!

In any case, the issue was finally settled after two months of being busy. Seeing how elated the other members of the department were, Wang Guangning was also very happy. That very day when he got home, he pulled out a small suitcase to start packing.

Hong Kong had a lot of duty-free goods, was a shopping paradise

Wang Guangning opened the closet and took a look at Zhang Lingyu’s clothes. After some thought, he swapped the small suitcase for a big one. Actually, he only had one change of clothes, some daily necessities, and a

few client documents to pack, all of which took up not even one-third of the luggage space.

After packing, he zipped up the suitcase. But just as he was about to get up, he was pushed down roughly from behind and fell to the ground.

“What are you doing?” Zhang Lingyu’s voice had a trace of alarm.

The back of his head had been knocked against the floor. Wang Guangning was annoyed as he looked up at Zhang Lingyu, who was pressing down on him: “What are *you* doing?” It hurt like hell.

“Why are you packing your things?” Zhang Lingyu was immovable on top of his body. Panic could be seen in his eyes.

Dmn it, what kind of expression was this?

“Where are you going?” Zhang Lingyu saw that Wang Guangning hadn’t replied, and said with even more urgency: “Why are you leaving me again?”

Leaving him?

Wang Guangning looked at him in confusion: “I’m just going to Hong Kong, ugh, company holiday, also to work

Zhang Lingyu’s nerves suddenly eased. He loosened his grip on Wang Guangning’s hands, and helped him up. Tightly embracing him, his voice still thick with some trauma: “That’s good! I thought you were going to leave without a sound again!”

Again?

Wang Guangning finally, belatedly, understood what Zhang Lingyu was worried about. He couldn’t help laughing, though his heart ached a little. It looked like, in those four years he’d assumed that he’d been the wounded party, Zhang Lingyu had also been tormented no less than him — so much so that he was still fearful that he would leave.

Seeing the worry that creased Zhang Lingyu's forehead, Wang Guangning's heart softened. Nevermind, just tell him!

This knot in his heart — the sooner it's untied, the better.

Though to reveal it now would mean losing some face

He cradled Zhang Lingyu's face, and kissed the corner of his eye: "Silly, when I left four years ago, it was because I thought you liked Luo Zihui."

Zhang Lingyu blinked: "What are you saying?"

Wang Guangning sighed: "I thought you liked Luo Zihui, thought I didn't stand a chance, so I left."

Zhang Lingyu embraced him in a rush, his chest heaving, his arms wrapping tighter: "I'm a real bastrd."

All this time, he hadn't known why Wang Guangning had left without a trace, and even though the two of them had become this intimate, he hadn't dared to ask.

But this matter had always troubled him. Subconsciously, he'd always been somewhat afraid that what happened then would happen again.

Who would've thought that the truth of the matter was this

"Guangning I'm sorry"

"It wasn't your fault." Wang Guangning rubbed his face: "It's just that we were too young, and didn't know, that's all."

"OK." Zhang Lingyu carried Wang Guangning to bed. "Now, let's do something that grown men should do!"

Wang Guangning: "....."

With a soft chuckle, he obediently put his arms around his neck.

There was no schedule on the first day in Hong Kong. Wang Guangning had been to Hong Kong quite a few times, so he didn't join Yu Jing and Wei Yiwen as they happily went sightseeing. He went out on his own.

He wasn't interested in shopping, but as he wanted to buy some things for Zhang Lingyu, it didn't feel that dull.

After half a day of shopping, he'd bought two sets of clothing for Zhang Lingyu, and one set for himself. The good thing about their figures being similar was that, even though Zhang Lingyu wasn't beside him, he wasn't afraid of buying ill-fitting clothes.

For men's clothing, it was about quality, not quantity. What Wang Guangning selected was all branded. Although it wasn't as expensive as in the mainland, it wasn't cheap. His and Zhang Lingyu's incomes weren't too bad, but they were of the salaried class after all, and didn't have the habit of frenziedly buying stuff on credit.

After buying clothes, he chose a pair of watches of the same model, and had the *hanyu pinyin* of his and Zhang Lingyu's names engraved on the back.

Having completed all this, Wang Guangning was just about tired out, and settled on a random *cha chaan teng* for a little something to eat. Then, he popped into a health and beauty store to buy a few boxes of healthcare products and two boxes of massage oil.

The second day, it was time to meet the Hong Kong client. The contract was negotiated quite smoothly, and after a meal together, the client presented them with a few concert tickets.

It was a concert by an indie rock band at the [Hong Kong Coliseum](#) that very night.

Wang Guangning wasn't interested at first, but Yu Jing and Wei Yiwen hadn't been to the Coliseum, so they were ecstatic and dragged Wang Guangning with them.

Because it wasn't a particularly popular band, the seats weren't filled up, probably around 60 percent or so. Wang Guangning and the others had VIP tickets, but the seat on his left was empty.

This was a rock band, with a style similar to [Mayday](#). The lead singer's hair was bleached white, and he was leaping about as he sang, time and again exhorting the audience with a loud, "Everybody, together!"

Wei Yiwen was thrilled to a high, and was dancing with a glow-stick in hand, hollering.

Yu Jing and the assistant weren't as wild, but they were clearly excited too.

Wang Guangning wasn't keen on this sort of all-out performance, and was spiritlessly sitting in place, one hand supporting his chin, dazedly looking at the empty seat beside him.

"The next song is a cover of Mayday's ["Suddenly, I Miss You So"](#). Friends in the audience, let's sing it together~" The noisy music stopped, and was replaced by a slow rhythm, then a somewhat sentimental melody started flowing.

Wang Guangning was moved. He took out his phone and gave Zhang Lingyu a call.

Zhang Lingyu answered quickly.

"*Shoushou*, are you missing me?"

Wang Guangning said: "Do you still remember our agreement from the past?"

"Of course, I remember. Why?"

"Nothing much, just wanted to listen to a concert with you, that's all." Saying that, Wang Guangning put on the speaker mode, and heard the lead singer's voice reverberating, right then, into the phone ——

Most afraid of sudden silence
Most afraid of sudden concern from friends
Most afraid of sudden wrecking by memories
Most afraid of sudden news about you

If longing has a voice
Don't want it to be cries of sorrow
Now that it's come to this, I'm finally come back to myself
It's just the tears that stop me from fooling myself completely

.....

Most afraid of, after deciding to live out my life alone,
To not have you, to then hear sudden news about you

Zhang Lingyu listened closely on the phone and could hear the audience singing along in the background. Wang Guangning didn't utter a sound, but for some reason, it seemed as though he could hear Wang Guangning's breathing and heartbeat.

When the song was over, Wang Guangning switched off the speaker mode, brought the phone close, and said softly: "Once, I was also afraid of hearing sudden news about you."

Zhang Lingyu smiled: "Yeah. Good thing you didn't decide to live out your life alone."

"Yeah." Wang Guangning gazed at the empty seat to his left, as though someone was sitting there. "Hey, I love you."

"I love you too."

We're like the most beautiful song
And the most touching movie
We've been through the most unforgettable journey
And the most unforgettable souvenir remains

We had a past that was so sweet, so beautiful, so trusting
So wild, and so passionate

We will certainly run together toward
Shared happiness and regrets, into our old age

[Just for the above portion, the author modified the sad lyrics of the original song for a happy ending.]

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ABG30D c53

The 29th Event of Being Gay: Take him to meet your family

Originally, Wang Guangning and the others had planned to return on the third night, but as Wang Guangning was bent on going home, he left early on the third morning with a suitcase that was much heavier than when he'd arrived.

It happened that he returned on a Sunday. Wang Guangning wanted to surprise Zhang Lingyu, so he didn't inform him in advance. Arriving home, he used the key to open the door.

"I'm back!" Wang Guangning couldn't hide the joy on his face as he strode in, only to see three people sitting in the living room. Apart from Zhang Lingyu, there was a middle-aged couple who were strangers to him.

Wang Guangning: "....." His smile had frozen on his face.

"Guangning, why are you back now?" Zhang Lingyu was shocked, and quickly jumped up. He looked rather nervous all of a sudden.

Wang Guangning looked at him, baffled.

"Let me introduce you all." Zhang Lingyu looked at the middle-aged couple, then at Wang Guangning. "Guangning, this is my dad and mum. Dad and mum, this is Wang Guangning."

Fck, why did Zhang Lingyu's parents suddenly appear?

Does this count as officially meeting the parents?

Wang Guangning's nerves were immediately on edge. His relationship with Zhang Lingyu was already clear, but they hadn't thought about meeting

each other's parents yet.

After all, there weren't many families in China that would embrace homosexuality.

Zhang Lingyu's parents maintained themselves very well, and only looked around 40. Both exuded dignity and an extraordinary poise, especially his mother — she was even more outstanding and was fashionably dressed. She didn't look as though she had a child as old as Zhang Lingyu — no wonder Zhang Lingyu had said his mother had been chased by many in her youth.

But all this wasn't important — what was important was that these two people didn't look as though they were very easy to get along with.

Especially since they were now sizing up Wang Guangning — they looked as though they wanted to soak Wang Guangning in chemicals to figure out what he was made of.

Wang Guangning had a hand on his luggage, but he was too nervous for his feet to step forward. In his confused state, he unconsciously gave a perfect smile: "Dad, Mum, how are you!"

Zhang Lingyu: "....."

Daddy Zhang: "....."

Mummy Zhang: "....."

TT Wang Guangning wanted to go back to a minute ago and deal himself a fatal punch.

It's over — how would Zhang Lingyu's parents look at him now?

In the end, it was Mummy Zhang who regained her senses first. She gave a little smile, stood up, and gestured for Wang Guangning to come to her: "Xiao Wang, why are you still there, come sit and have a chat." [*Xiao* = lit. "little", appended to a name to create a sense of affection. Kind of like adding *-ie* in Korean, i.e., Wangie.]

Wang Guangning put down his luggage, braced himself, and sat between Zhang Lingyu and Mummy Zhang.

“That is, Uncle, Auntie, I’m Zhang Lingyu’s flatmate

Wang Guangning tried hard to win back some points.

He didn’t expect Mummy Zhang to giggle: “You just called us Dad and Mum, so why is it Uncle and Auntie now?”

Wang Guangning blushed. He stuttered: “Mis- misspoke.”

Mummy Zhang smiled: “Doesn’t matter. It’s fine to say Dad and Mum, since it’s only a matter of time.”

Wang Guangning: “???????”

Mummy Zhang feigned shock: “What, don’t tell me you’re not intending to spend the rest of your life with Lingyu?”

Wang Guangning was startled, and looked at Zhang Lingyu.

Zhang Lingyu had a slight flush on his face, and scratched his head as he said: “That is, Guangning, my dad and mum already know about our relationship.”

Wang Guangning’s heart gave a thump, then settled down. If Zhang Lingyu’s parents already know, then this attitude was now tacit approval?

A rush of joy overwhelmed him. Wang Guangning couldn’t quite believe it as he looked at Zhang Lingyu, then back at his parents. He didn’t know what to say in that moment.

Daddy Zhang was observing from the side all this while, and only then did he softly cough: “Xiao Wang, about you and Lingyu, we already know. To be honest, we didn’t accept it at first

“Stop talking rubbish!” Mummy Zhang didn’t wait for Daddy Zhang to finish before giving him a push, forcefully cutting him off. She followed up

with an eye-roll. Daddy Zhang fell silent right away.

Mummy Zhang then pulled Wang Guangning's hand to her and patted it, peering at him closely. She examined him till he was blushing all over, and gently sighed: "Xiao Wang, don't take Old Zhang's words to heart. Times are different now. Though you and Lingyu are both men, as long as you're sincere toward each other, and truly are together in every way, we'll definitely be supportive of you."

Wang Guangning's heart softened, and his voice was a little choked: "Auntie"

"Still Auntie!" Mummy Zhang gave a glare with her gorgeous eyes, somehow conveying the coyness of a young lady. She sighed again: "At first, when Zhang Lingyu told us he's gay, I and Old Zhang truly got mad for a long while. We only have this one precious son, and he hadn't made us worry all his life. Who knew that when it came to marriage *sigh*. Actually, what we'd been afraid of was him going out and learning all kinds of messed-up things. But now that we've seen you, I and Old Zhang are relieved."

Daddy Zhang, having been glared at by his wife, hurried to chime in and redeem himself: "Yes, yes, Lingyu told us he was gay, but he didn't fool around all these years, and was earnestly waiting for you. We were so puzzled, but it looks like all these years of waiting were worth it!" Saying that, he even laughed heartily.

"That's enough, Dad and Mum, let's not mention the past anymore." Zhang Lingyu felt awkward to be talked about like that, and tried to close down the topic: "Let's tidy up and prepare to go out for dinner."

"What's wrong with me speaking with my daughter-in-law?" Mummy Zhang rolled her eyes at Zhang Lingyu too: "With the whole family here, why do we need to go out for dinner? You and your dad go and cook. I'll be chatting with Xiao Wang." She turned to Daddy Zhang: "Old Zhang, take your son and go cook."

“Yes, right away.” When it’s the wife giving orders, Daddy Zhang didn’t dare to disobey [lit. Chinese verb here is usually in reference to unfilial behaviour, i.e., toward parents]. He immediately pinched Zhang Lingyu’s ear and dragged him to the kitchen.

cough cough So, it seems that being henpecked is hereditary!

“Come, Xiao Wang, let’s chat.” Without those people getting in the way, Mummy Zhang immediately brightened with a smile.

When she’d first found out her son was gay, she was furious. She’d been afraid that Zhang Lingyu would start all kinds of messed-up behaviour. But when she was finally able to accept things, she had to witness her son getting older year by year without bringing back a single partner. So, she was dissatisfied again.

Whether you’re gay or straight, you’ve got to bring back a partner!

And so, it was natural that she would be dissatisfied with the unknown person her son had been waiting for like a lovesick fool.

Her own son was so handsome and outstanding; what kind of hotshot could the object of his affections aspire to be?

A while ago, a strange man had picked up the phone [see [chapter 40](#)], claiming to be a tenant. This led to endless bewilderment — who knew he’d be the one her son was pining for.

This time, Mummy Zhang was unrelenting. She made Daddy Zhang settle whatever work he had on hand and find time to hurry back and see their daughter-in-law.

And now that they’d seen him — needless to say, he appeared dashing and talented. But that manner, that poise — no losing out to their own son at all.

In her heart, Mummy Zhang gave him full marks.

If it was a match like this, then her son’s few years of waiting hadn’t been a waste.

It was probably a result of how, ever since her son had come out of the closet, her constant worry had been he would bring home some awful people. In the end, it was someone like Wang Guangning — apart from the fact of his gender, it could be said that everything about him surpassed the couple's expectations. Right there and then, they were overjoyed, and everything about Wang Guangning pleased them.

Mummy Zhang hadn't chatted for long before she started probing into everything to do with Wang Guangning's family, career, and so on. She became even more satisfied — it seemed like they only needed to push for their wedding ceremony.

It was Wang Guangning who still appeared to be hesitant about something. He waited till Mummy Zhang had finally asked everything she wanted, before enquiring carefully: "Auntie, when did you know about us?"

Mummy Zhang thought for a while: "It's been two or three years."

Wang Guangning was suddenly overwhelmed with deep emotions, ones he couldn't quite describe.

Two or three years ago — he was still in Taiwan, and didn't have a thing to do with Zhang Lingyu.

Yet, Zhang Lingyu had actually paved the way with his family — had he been so sure they would end up together?

Even though Daddy Zhang and Mummy Zhang looked at peace now, and could even be said to be delighted, Wang Guangning knew that when Zhang Lingyu first came out of the closet, it couldn't have been an easy thing.

As they chatted, Daddy Zhang brought out the feast that his son had prepared.

"Mum, Guangning, time to eat." Zhang Lingyu hollered toward the living room as he ladled for everyone the tomato, potato and spareribs soup that had been stewed to tender perfection.

“Let’s go eat.” Mummy Zhang said, and pulled Wang Guangning along to the dining hall.

It was probably because it was his first time eating with his daughter-in-law that Daddy Zhang decided to show off and prepare some of his specialities.

After chatting with Mummy Zhang, Wang Guangning had loosened up a lot. The four of them crowded round the table.

“Come, Xiao Wang, have the roasted sparerib. Old Zhang does this well.” As Mummy Zhang said this, she placed a sparerib in Wang Guangning’s bowl.

“Thank you.” Wang Guangning hurriedly brought his bowl close to receive it.

“Wonder what Xiao Wang’s best dishes are?” Daddy Zhang suddenly spouted this line.

Wang Guangning froze.

Oil-splattered kitchen Zhang Lingyu silently replied.

Mummy Zhang pushed a piece of salted-fish eggplant into Daddy Zhang’s bowl: “The daughter-in-law of our family just needs to know how to eat. Why would he need to know how to cook!”

Daring to expect Xiao Wang to cook — doesn’t this imply he’s challenging his wife’s authority!”

It’s son-in-law, thank you!

Wang Guangning retorted internally, even as he looked sorry on the outside.

Daddy Zhang looked sorrowfully at the eggplant in his bowl.

Wifey, I’m sorry. Could you please not have me eat what I hate most — salted-fish eggplant!

At bedtime, Daddy Zhang and Mummy Zhang slept in the master bedroom, and Zhang Lingyu in his own room, while Wang Guangning didn't feel he could share the room with him with his parents here. So, he insisted on going to his original, small room.

Zhang Lingyu couldn't change his mind, and could only let him go. In the end, he waited till Daddy Zhang and Mummy Zhang had gone to bed before sneaking to Wang Guangning's room.

"*Shoushou*." Zhang Lingyu stealthily opened the door, lifted Wang Guangning's blanket, and slipped in.

"What are you doing." Wang Guangning wasn't asleep yet. Seeing Zhang Lingyu had come in, he got nervous and pushed him out at once: "Go back to your room quickly."

"Not gonna." Zhang Lingyu clung like a koala to Wang Guangning: "We haven't seen each other for two days, and you won't let me hug you? That's just inhuman!"

"Your dad and mum are next door!" Wang Guangning was slightly annoyed.

"They don't have the time to bother with us; goodness knows what they're up to right now!" Zhang Lingyu leaned close and blew against Wang Guangning's ear, sounding indecent.

Wang Guangning naturally thought in *that* direction, and blushed. Luckily, Zhang Lingyu's home had good soundproofing, so he couldn't hear anything to do with *that*.

"I missed you." Zhang Lingyu rubbed against Wang Guangning, his voice bearing a touch of grievance.

Wang Guangning melted, and hugged him back: "When you came out to your family, you suffered, didn't you?"

“Not at all.” Zhang Lingyu rubbed against him: “My dad and mum are really good-natured.”

Wang Guangning sighed, and didn’t say a word.

Zhang Lingyu fell silent for a while, then said: “To be with you, this was a barrier that had to be passed. After graduation, my dad and mum kept wanting to matchmake me. I felt it was bothersome, so I just came out of the closet.”

Wang Guangning traced his brow bone: “Uncle and Auntie didn’t drive you out of the house?”

“Almost.” Zhang Lingyu laughed: “It’s nothing. After bitter suffering, comes sweet happiness, right?”

Wang Guangning kissed his cheek.

Zhang Lingyu kissed him back. After entangling for a while, he said: “*Shoushou*, I want.”

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Wang Guangning reached out and touched Zhang Lingyu down there. Indeed, it was ready for action: “I’ll use my hand to help you.”

Zhang Lingyu turned over and pressed him down, his voice full of mischief: “Why not use your mouth to help.”

Wang Guangning blushed with shame, but didn’t utter a rejection.

This was tacit approval!

Zhang Lingyu felt a certain part of his had hardened even more.

He leaned against the headboard, so Wang Guangning could kneel and place his head near his raised member.

His underwear was still on, and was tenting up. The centre was already wet.

Wang Guangning went near the underwear and licked that raised member a little. Zhang Lingyu couldn’t endure it anymore, and pressed his head closer against him.

Wang Guangning continued to mess with the underwear for a while before finally pulling it down. The erect member immediately bounced out, slapping once against Wang Guangning’s cheek.

They hadn’t switched on the lights, so Wang Guangning could only make out a vague outline in the dark — an outline of something really big.

“Guangning

Wang Guangning squeezed his eyes shut, and swallowed that thing.

Zhang Lingyu felt so good that his head arched back, till he couldn't bear it anymore, and thrust his hips.

Wang Guangning's throat was being thrust against, so he couldn't stop dry retching. But Zhang Lingyu was still unaware, mindlessly pressing down Wang Guangning's head.

Fccccccck it allllllll!

Wang Guangning was getting thrust till his eyes were tearing. He quickly grasped *it* with his hands.

At last, with much difficulty, he managed to set Zhang Lingyu loose.

Zhang Lingyu was panting with relish. He pulled Wang Guangning over and started kissing him.

The night was still young.

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The second morning, while Zhang Lingyu's parents were still in bed, Wang Guangning hurriedly drove Zhang Lingyu out of his room.

Zhang Lingyu was still dazed with sleep, and clung to Wang Guangning's body like a koala. In the end, he was mercilessly tossed out the door by Wang Guangning.

Only when Zhang Lingyu's parents were both up, and Zhang Lingyu had been dragged into the kitchen by his mum to cook, did Wang Guangning come out of his room, feigning coolness as he brought out the healthcare products from Hong Kong and presented them to the pair.

He'd originally intended to give those healthcare products to his own parents, but it turned out he would be able to make use of them right now.

Mummy Zhang took a good look at the healthcare products: "Oh, aren't these often advertised on TV nowadays? I was just intending to buy some. Xiao Wang, you're really so thoughtful."

Wang Guangning saw that Mummy Zhang was genuinely pleased with the gift, and was relieved. He was secretly rejoicing as he gave Zhang Lingyu the clothes he'd bought for him, and had him try them on.

Wang Guangning had bought two sets for him. One set was more formal, for work, and the other was more casual, for leisure.

Zhang Lingyu put on the casual wear. It was a simple shirt and long trousers, with clean and neat lines that were never out of fashion, and were unexpectedly a perfect fit. It brightened Zhang Lingyu's whole look considerably, giving him the air of a celebrity on the street.

Mummy Zhang was very pleased, and said with a smile: “Xiao Wang has such a good eye; so much more fashionable than Lingyu.”

Zhang Lingyu = =|||: “Mum, even if you want to praise Guangning, you don’t have to belittle the son you gave birth to, right!”

Mummy Zhang rolled her gorgeous eyes: “Who said I gave birth to you? You were a free gift for renewing my phone plan.”

Zhang Lingyu looked bitterly at Daddy Zhang: “Dad, see how your wife has abandoned her son after getting a daughter-in-law.”

Wang Guangning closed his eyes and hollered in his heart: “It’s son-in-law!”

But in front of Daddy and Mummy Zhang, he maintained a warm smile.

Daddy Zhang looked helplessly at Zhang Lingyu, a little anxious: “Son, you know I won’t interfere in this matter. The only thing you can do is absorb Dad’s teachings, and choose your wife carefully *aiyoh*” Before he could finish, he had been pinched by Mummy Zhang.

Zhang Lingyu looked happily at Wang Guangning: “Good thing I have a first-class eye for a wife!”

It’s husband! Wang Guangning hollered once again in his heart, and glared at Zhang Lingyu: “Quickly go and cook then”!

Zhang Lingyu TT: “Dad, we’re fellow travellers on this rough road!”

Daddy Zhang silently held his thumb up to his son: “Son, do your best!”

After lunch, Zhang Lingyu’s parents left.

The excuse was that Daddy Zhang was still busy with work, but the truth was to give the two of them space.

After sending them off, Wang Guangning's tautly stretched nerves could finally relax. He and Zhang Lingyu were glued to each other on the sofa.

"When you came out of the closet, did you think about what you would've done if your parents kept on opposing?" Wang Guangning asked him.

Zhang Lingyu gave the tip of his nose a light bite, and smiled: "I'd have fought a long war. You can't force feelings. I was very clear about who I wanted to spend the rest of my life with."

"Luckily, Uncle and Auntie are both very open-minded." Wang Guangning said this sincerely — family resistance was his greatest worry, but who knew that Zhang Lingyu had already swept away this biggest obstacle.

Wang Guangning was happy and moved.

"They only have me, this one son." Zhang Lingyu pressed Wang Guangning down on the sofa. "Since I've come out of the closet for you, you have to take responsibility for me with your whole life. Not allowed to seduce then abandon me."

Wang Guangning laughed lightly, and let Zhang Lingyu have his way with him.

After Zhang Lingyu had his fill of touching and tasting him, he remembered something else, and pushed him away: "Oh right, I have something for you."

Saying that, he got up and went into his room, fetching from his suitcase that pair of watches and bringing them over to Zhang Lingyu.

Zhang Lingyu took a look at the one he received, then glanced at the one that remained in Wang Guangning's hand. He gave a whistle: "Couple watches!"

Wang Guangning took out the watch from his box: "I'll put it on for you."

Zhang Lingyu looked into Wang Guangning's eyes, and smiled: "I, Zhang Lingyu, am willing to be with Mr. Wang Guangning, for richer or poorer, in

sickness or in health, never to part.”

“Childish.” Wang Guangning scoffed, though his eyes shone with joy. He secured the watch on Zhang Lingyu’s wrist.

Zhang Lingyu took out the watch that was with him, and looked at Wang Guangning: “Mr. Wang Guangning, are you willing to spend the rest of your life with Zhang Lingyu, through all that is to come, in poverty or riches, to be the closest of companions, never to forsake each other?”

Wang Guangning blushed a little, and pursed his lips: “Depends on my mood.”

“That won’t do.” Zhang Lingyu held back the watch. “Once you wear this watch, you’re mine. No matter your mood, whether you’re happy, or even if you’re sad, you’re not allowed to leave me.”

Saying this, he looked at Wang Guangning, overflowing with emotion: “But I will promise you this too. As long as we’re together, I will do my utmost to make you happy, and will never ever do anything that would make you sad. Are you willing?”

“So glib!” Wang Guangning sounded disapproving, but stretched out his left wrist. “Put it on for me then.”

Zhang Lingyu suddenly smiled till his eyes formed crescent moons. He secured the watch on Wang Guangning, and said: “And now the groom may kiss the bride.”

The two of them embraced, and kissed each other deeply.

Next to the TV, Wang Dafa was sunbathing.

Sunlight is grand!

After dinner, while Zhang Lingyu was having his shower, Wang Guangning took the opportunity to phone home. The call quickly connected.

“Hello? Dad, it’s me.”

“I’m going to find some time to come home for a visit I’ll bring my partner with me.”

“My university classmate he’s a guy.”

There was yelling from the other side. Wang Guangning held the phone away from his ear, and only brought it closer after a long while. “Dad, I’m certain that he’s the one. Won’t change my mind. Let Mum know. Calm down first. Later, I’ll bring him to meet the two of you.”

After hanging up, Wang Guangning’s hands were still trembling. Though he’d sounded steady on the phone, he wasn’t feeling so calm.

He raised his head. Unbeknownst to him, Zhang Lingyu had already emerged from the bathroom. He was still carrying the clothes he’d taken off, and was standing not far off, looking at him.

“Your dad and mum must be furious!” Zhang Lingyu forced a smile.

“Nevermind.” Wang Guangning waved his hand. He felt helpless too, but feigned casualness: “Worse come to worst, it’ll be a long war. Anyway didn’t you make it through in the end?”

“When will you go back? I’ll go with you.”

“Of course, you’ll have to go back with me. After all, the ugly daughter-in-law must eventually meet her parents-in-law.” [idiom meaning that one’s work, no matter how poor, would eventually have to be shown; here, WGN is joking with the literal words] Wang Guangning made sure to emphasize “daughter-in-law”.

“OK, I’ll do my best.” Zhang Lingyu put on a serious expression. “For the sake of being acknowledged by *Yuefu* and *Yuemu* as soon as possible.” [ZLY uses the terms that a wife would use of her father-in-law and mother-in-law, respectively]

Wang Guangning glared at him: “It’s *Gonggong* and *Popo*.” [WGN uses the terms that a husband would use of his father-in-law and mother-in-law, respectively]

Zhang Lingyu didn’t make a sound, giving him a look instead that said, “You know what it is.” His line of sight actually wandered daringly down toward *that* part of Wang Guangning’s body.

Wang Guangning was leered at till he was properly annoyed. Taking a deep breath, he erupted: “Zhang Lingyu, if you continue looking, I’m going to burst your chrysanthemum!” [i.e., you know what it is]

Hero Zhang immediately looked away. He raised the clothes in his hands and intoned seriously: “I shall go do the laundry.”

Sob Wifey must have been led astray by Mummy, behaving more and more like a queen.

In the future, in this Zhang family that has become four — his position is going to be at the very bottom!

This is just too sad, OK!

Zhang Lingyu was full of sorrow. The days ahead were going to be impossible.

Though they’d intended to return to Wang Guangning’s home and meet his parents, the next thing they knew, Wang Guangning was sucked into a whirlpool of work again. The plan to go home had to be set aside for now.

After Fumaokaisi had signed agreements with what had been DM China’s big distributors, Old Zhou wanted the marketing department to work with the distributors. So, they were to host a joint trade exhibition, in order to promote their products and establish their brand reputation.

And so, Wang Guangning led the marketing department and distributor representatives in working overtime, thinking up ideas, writing proposals,

calculating budgets, liaising with the venue, and promoting the event — he was extremely busy.

Thankfully, Yu Jing and Wei Yiwen were both vastly experienced in this area. What's more, Yu Jing was very familiar with G City's exhibition centre managers, and smoothly secured the PZ exhibition centre at a very low price.

After that, it was all about the exhibition space design, showcase set-up, goods display, worker arrangements, and so on.

Wei Yiwen was in charge of promoting the event, and also connecting with buyers to solicit their participation.

It was when everything was just about settled that Wang Guangning abruptly realized he'd neglected Zhang Lingyu for more than half a month.

And so, when he got off work, he bought a small cream cake with a heart on top drawn with red syrup.

When Zhang Lingyu saw that Wang Guangning finally didn't have to do overtime, he was naturally delighted. At dinner, he opened up a small bottle of plum wine.

While they were watching TV later that night, Wang Guangning brought out the cake: "I haven't had a proper meal with you these days. Let's share this cake then."

Zhang Lingyu saw that the cake had a heavy layer of cream on top, and gave a wicked smile. His right forefinger removed a bit of cream and smeared it on Wang Guangning's neck. "I don't want to eat cream cake. I want to eat cream *Shoushou*." Saying that, he licked the cream off Wang Guangning's neck.

Wang Guangning was speechless as he pushed him away with his spare hand: "Eat the cake properly."

Zhang Lingyu unwillingly received the cake. When he took the spoon, he scooped out some cake and brought it over to Wang Guangning's mouth: "Ah~"

Wang Guangning's mouth held the spoon. Zhang Lingyu pulled it out. A little bit of cream was left on Wang Guangning's lips.

Zhang Lingyu's gaze heated up. He leaned over and licked the corner of his lips: "Look, it tastes really good like this."

Wang Guangning could only lean his head to the side and give him a look: "Playing a little is fine; not allowed to go crazy."

This is temptation, ah, temptation!

Zhang Lingyu gave a whoop. He placed the cake on the side table next to the sofa, and unbuttoned Wang Guangning's pyjama top, exposing his lean chest and stomach.

Greeting the little grapes [lit. Gentlemen Grapes] that he hadn't seen in a long while, Zhang Lingyu excitedly pounced and gave them a bite. Then, he smeared a big dollop of cream on them.

By the time Zhang Lingyu had eaten all of the cream, Wang Guangning's chest was all red, and the bits that were sticking out were a little swollen. How could Zhang Lingyu endure any longer — he immediately carried Wang Guangning back to the room.

And so, a massive wave of 'peace and harmony' proceeded to emanate from Zhang Lingyu's room. [lit. a river crab crawled past his room like a boss; i.e., wordplay in a euphemism for a euphemism] After this scene, Wang Guangning nestled in Zhang Lingyu's embrace, all tired out. But he still had work on his mind, and groggily said: "Our company is holding an exhibition at PZ exhibition centre this weekend. Do you want to go together?"

As Zhang Lingyu held him, he said: "Yes. If it's to do with my man, of course I'll go and cheer him on."

It wasn't clear whether Wang Guangning had heard him or not, but he snuggled a little more inside his embrace.

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ABG30D c55

Fumaokaisi was putting on their first large-scale product exhibition in the mainland, so a lot of importance was placed on it. Not only was the venue spacious, but the design of the exhibition space was also novel and user-friendly. A grand stage was erected opposite the main doors, and a massive white projection screen formed its backdrop.

Many buyers turned up at the event. Wei Yiwen might seem a little unorthodox, but exceeded expectations when it came to customer relations. Many of his past customers had come only because of him. This time, the exhibition was also open to other parties, so there were many industry representatives who came over for a look. Among them were people from DM China and Huidi International.

Zhang Lingyu, who was dressed in a trim Western suit, was highly displeased as he looked upon a small, almost neglected figure in the crowd — Xu Guohui. He was struggling over whether to go up and give his ‘little brother’ a kick.

After wrestling over this for a long while, he simply sighed in the end. For Wang Guangning’s sake, he would endure this.

He felt that someone as wretched as Xu Guohui shouldn’t appear at a place as refined as this one set up by Wang Guangning. But since Fumaokaisi had opened up the event to everyone, and he himself was also from a competitor, he could only keep his biting comments to himself. He had no say in who could attend the exhibition, so the best he could do was plaster on a suave smile.

“I didn’t think you would actually come and support Wang Guangning!” Xu Guohui had a hand in his pocket as he sauntered up to Zhang Lingyu. “I

thought you guys were like fire and water. What a shock!”

Zhang Lingyu gave him an aloof glance: “So sorry to disappoint you.”

Xu Guohui seemed not to have heard the sarcastic tone in Zhang Lingyu’s words, and continued by himself: “Come to think of it, I remember in university, when everyone thought you hated each other’s guts, you were already standing up for Wang Guangning.” The memory of Zhang Lingyu mocking him on the forum would be with him forever. It was all because of that, that he became known as “F Uni’s No. 1 Loser”. He was in a disgrace till graduation.

“Yup, couldn’t be helped. Handsome guys appreciate each other after all.” Zhang Lingyu shrugged, and added most politely: “If Wang Guangning looked like you, I would never have stood up for him.” Zhang Lingyu meant this wholeheartedly. He’d always thought that he fell in love with Wang Guangning so easily partly because of Wang Guangning’s looks.

Xu Guohui turned gloomy, and a look of disdain flashed across his face: *cough* “Appreciate each other? I think it’s not only that but hey, you two are truly living at the cutting edge, keeping up with all the trends. It really makes me stunned!” After saying his piece, he seemed to be gloating with derision.

Zhang Lingyu suddenly felt uneasy: “What do you mean by that?”

Xu Guohui smiled sourly: “If you dared to do it, then you shouldn’t be afraid of being found out. Zhang Lingyu, while you were doing those filthy things with Wang Guangning, didn’t you realize you’d be discovered one day?”

Zhang Lingyu coldly replied: “Xu Guohui. One should know one’s limits.”

Xu Guohui turned even colder: “You guys provoked me first.”

Zhang Lingyu wanted to say something else, but at that moment, a pleasant melody sounded across the venue. When it ended, a tall and beautiful female emcee dressed in a knee-length cocktail dress went onstage with a

smile. She looked out at the audience who were turning their attention toward her, and said: “Welcome everyone to Fumaokaisi’s very first product exhibition in China. May I invite our CEO, Mr. Zhou, to address us?”

While applause was ringing out, Old Zhou smiled brightly as he went onstage. Old Zhou was the typical Taiwanese businessman. Past 50, a little overweight, with a kindly countenance, and whose slightly off-pitch *Putonghua* was accented by his Taiwanese dialect. In the audience were a few younger ladies who loved watching Taiwanese idol dramas — when they heard some sentences that were particularly accented, they couldn’t help but giggle. However, Old Zhou was in a good mood today. Though the exhibition had only just started, the set-up, staff condition, and overall mood made it obvious that it was going to be a success. So, he didn’t mind the light laughs that broke out now and then.

He didn’t speak for long, and after he was done, it was time for Wang Guangning to introduce the company, its products and future mode of operations.

Wang Guangning came across as clean, cool, and capable, exuding the air of an elite from head to toe. He was relaxed onstage, professional yet not mechanical at all. His assistant was at the side helping with the slides that they’d made themselves. The slide layout was clear and succinct, and he matched the slide content seamlessly, unhurried and smooth as he presented on what was unique about Fumaokaisi’s products and how the market was looking. He was economical with his words, precise in his articulation, and was even able to easily quote cases from past collaborations with clients, enlivening the content.

Everyone was captured by his presentation, and gave him their undivided attention. Zhang Lingyu was even more absorbed, all the while feeling as though he was also sharing the glory.

The person onstage who was so outstanding and full of confidence — that was his man.

“..... And that’s Fumaokaisi’s product line-up, along with our unique selling points and the market outlook. Next up is the Q and A. If anyone

would like clarification on something I've introduced, or more details, please feel free to ask." Wang Guangning smiled at the audience.

Some buyers queried the quality and suitability of the products, and so on. Wang Guangning addressed each question patiently.

"Would anyone else like to ask a question?" Wang Guangning continued to smile after answering the buyers' queries.

Xu Guohui raised his hand.

A staff member hurried over to pass the wireless microphone to him.

As the marketing manager of DM China, Xu Guohui was known by many in the audience. Usually, a competitor's staff at such gatherings would only observe the proceedings, rather than participate in a Q and A session.

So when Xu Guohui raised his hand, everyone looked over to him.

"Before I ask Manager Wang a question, I want to show everyone a little something" Xu Guohui laughed in a way that sent shivers down the spine. "Allow me to borrow your company's projector." As Xu Guohui said this, he bypassed the Fumaokaisi staff in charge of the projector, and with everyone watching, proceeded on his own to the control booth next to the stage, stuck a USB drive into the computer that Wang Guangning's assistant was using, then took over the mouse and opened up a folder.

An untitled folder popped up on the projection screen. Xu Guohui clicked open the folder. Inside the folder were more than ten photos. Xu Guohui clicked one open.

Once the photo was onscreen, the audience was in an uproar.

It was a photo of Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu kissing on the street.

Everyone turned with one accord to look rather ambiguously at Wang Guangning onstage, then at Zhang Lingyu offstage, whispering fiercely all the while.

Old Zhou, who had been all smiles, now fell into a deep gloom. When upper management got into trouble, the company — especially one that was in the sensitive stage that Fumaokaisi was at — could be dealt a fatal blow.

Wang Guangning hadn't expected this sudden situation, and was left stunned onstage.

Though Zhang Lingyu had already intuited something was wrong while he was speaking with Xu Guohui, he hadn't thought that Xu Guohui had actually followed and caught them on camera. His initial reaction was shock. Then this turned into fury. He charged up, intending to give Xu Guohui a thrashing: "You son of a bitch!"

"Hey, hey, hey~" Xu Guohui spoke into the microphone: "Surely Manager Zhang isn't someone who can't handle this?" His words were laced with smugness.

His voice was broadcast throughout the exhibition venue.

Zhang Lingyu halted his steps, stiffly. He held himself back. Everyone was looking on and listening. If he laid a hand on Xu Guohui, it would only make things more difficult for Wang Guangning.

Zhang Lingyu had never encountered anyone as despicable as Xu Guohui. In that moment, he didn't know how to deal with him.

Seeing how frustrated Zhang Lingyu looked as he held himself back despite being clearly furious, Xu Guohui was full of glee.

In their student days, Zhang Lingyu and Wang Guangning were the constant stars of F Uni. Girls were always surrounding them, and everything good was monopolized by them.

But someone mundane like him, whose studies and sports had always been ordinary, was only ever overlooked.

Weren't they all F Uni students? Then why were Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu gold, but he could only be a rock?

Even seizing on a little flaw of Wang Guangning and mocking him in a forum post led to being labelled the “No. 1 Loser”.

The humiliation and unhappiness from their suppression over all these years was finally soothed in this moment.

Zhang Lingyu, Wang Guangning — I’ll do anything to make you lose everything!

Xu Guohui’s cackling made him look like a sinister, venomous snake.

“I heard a rumour in the industry that Fumaokaisi’s most promising marketing manager liked someone in Huidi International’s HR department” Xu Guohui looked over at Wang Guangning, who was still standing dumbfounded onstage. “But it seems that no one knew who Manager Wang was talking about, till not too long ago, someone gave me these photos. Really, I don’t know who could be so wicked, taking these photos in secret. That’s why I brought them out today, so Manager Wang and everyone else can check if they’re authentic. Manager Wang, let us know, are these photos real or fake?”

Despite Xu Guohui’s question, it was clear to everyone that whether Wang Guangning was going to confirm or deny it, there was no dodging the truth about this love affair.

So, those in the audience were either giving Wang Guangning an ambiguous look or a sympathetic one.

Actually, love scandals were common among the upper management of any company. To those who had been in the business world for a long time, this was nothing.

But if the news involved a same-sex scandal that was quite fresh and exciting!

After a while, Wang Guangning managed to regain control of himself. He gazed calmly at Zhang Lingyu.

Zhang Lingyu met his gaze. They were not using words, but somehow understood the intentions expressed in each other's eyes.

Zhang Lingyu nodded. Wang Guangning took a deep breath. His smile not breaking, he looked out at the audience and said, "What everyone is seeing is indeed the truth. I'm dating Zhang Lingyu right now."

A commotion broke out. A woman even lost control and screamed.

Old Zhou felt faint, his body seemingly on the verge of collapse.

And Zhang Lingyu, under everyone's gaze, slowly made his way to the stage.

ABG30D c56

Everyone's attention was on Zhang Lingyu.

Zhang Lingyu appeared relaxed, and strolled up leisurely. He had a smile on his face, looking all suave. But the truth was that he was in turmoil. Good thing *Laozi* dressed up today — I'm looking so handsome, *Shoushou* shouldn't lose any face.

Reaching Wang Guangning, he was calm and composed before everyone as he grasped Wang Guangning's hand. It was then that he realized Wang Guangning's palm was sopping with sweat.

He gently squeezed Wang Guangning's hand, signalling him not to be nervous.

Wang Guangning felt the warmth of Zhang Lingyu's hand, and relaxed gradually. He looked at the audience with a natural expression, and spoke unhurriedly: "As everyone can see, I'm a man, and Lingyu is also a man. But love does not sexually discriminate. I love him. Whether he's a man or a woman is not what's important to me."

The audience looked at one another, and fell silent.

Xu Guohui still had the microphone. Hearing this, he smiled: "Love in these times is so great. Not only is there no sexual discrimination, there's no 'racial' discrimination either. Wonder if Manager Wang will fall in love with a dog or a cat next time."

Wang Guangning gave him a freezing glance. He had natural presence — with this one glance, Xu Guohui felt under heavy pressure. Wang Guangning smiled: "I don't have wide-ranging tastes like Mr. Xu. Would Mr. Xu be interested in sharing with everyone his research in this area?"

Xu Guohui was instantly infuriated: “Wang Guangning, you’re just a damned homo — what do you have to be proud about?”

Wang Guangning couldn’t be bothered with him. He turned to the audience: “I’m a homosexual, this is true. And it’s because the person I love most in this world is a man. No one has made it so that love can only happen between a man and a woman. When I’m with him, I’m very happy, very content, and this is enough for me

Wang Guangning had wanted to continue, but stopped abruptly.

All of a sudden, he realized — love was, after all, just between two people, and no one else’s business. There was no need for him to explain himself in front of all these people.

As he fell silent, Zhang Lingyu suddenly took over his microphone. He cleared his throat, and said: “So what if I’m dating Wang Guangning? We’re happy on our own and not getting in anyone’s way. Everyone can still live their own way, work their own way. No need to use this to trouble us or trouble yourselves. So I only have one thing to say — everyone just needs to wish us well! That’s it. You may now clap.”

The audience was stunned. Then, a few young ladies started applauding wildly. These were friends of Fumaokaisi’s admin girl (remember her? — the Amaterasu goddess who still owed everyone 10,000 words of *hentai*), dragged down to the exhibition by her to help with odd jobs and enliven the atmosphere. They were the bedrock of the *fujoshi* army, and before Wang Guangning came out of the closet, they’d already been *moe*-ed to death. Now that they got to witness Zhang Lingyu and Wang Guangning, these two hotties, giving a grand display of their love, how could they keep their cool? They were all red with excitement and hollering on the inside — how daring! One look and you know he’s the *gong* — good on you, Manager Zhang!

Zhang Lingyu and Wang Guangning had outstanding looks. Though they were both men, they brought out the best in each other as they stood side by side. They were a perfect match — if a woman were to stand next to either of them, the glow would diminish. Moreover, they looked so natural and at

ease, neither trying to hide nor giving the impression they were doing something shameful. They simply stood onstage, holding hands. That poise — it was as though they were born to be together.

Actually, the audience members had been in the business world for a long time. They'd seen all kinds of things while entertaining clients and authorities, including the ugliest side of them. Even if they disdained what they saw, they were skilful in keeping a straight face.

It was the way of their world — as long as there was money to be made, even if it was with a dog, someone would be willing to cooperate. Who would care whether you liked men or women?

So, though everyone had been shocked at first and gorged on the gossip — deep down, what did this have to do with them?

Sexual orientation wasn't an integrity issue. Like Zhang Lingyu said, the two of them being lovey-dovey behind closed doors didn't get in the way of anyone else. Everyone could still live their own way and work their own way.

No one would be dumb enough to not work with Wang Guangning just because he was dating a man — the point was that they'd actually get to work with Fumaokaisi!

And truth be told, Zhang Lingyu and Wang Guangning really looked too good together. There wasn't a hint of repulsiveness. Everyone soon lost the mood of laughing at their expense.

They were all business partners, and those two were truly in love — why not be generous and wish them well?

And so, the scattered clapping grew louder, and swelled into resounding applause that filled the venue.

And it was prolonged applause.

Xu Guohui hadn't expected such a turnaround. Or rather, he hadn't expected Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu to come out of the closet so boldly and openly, and that everyone accepted it so easily. Young man, times have changed. Kennedy Xu and Chen Kun are openly flirting [[the novelist and actor were jokingly flirting on Weibo, which pleased many a fujoshi](#)], and you still want to use this sort of thing to knock down Wang Guangning? Too silly, too naïve!

Xu Guohui was glum indeed.

Zhang Lingyu turned to Xu Guohui: "Mr. Xu, based on the number of photos and their angle, they must have been secretly taken by a private investigator. No matter how you obtained the photos, I hope you'll watch out and not do this again.

Xu Guohui paled, but stubbornly resisted: "Don't try to slander me. This kind of dirty relationship, who knows who took the photos"

Zhang Lingyu went cold, and glared at Xu Guohui till every hair on his back stood on end: "Xu Guohui. Listen carefully. Liking men is not dirty. And so what if you like women? Do you think that makes you more noble than me?"

Xu Guohui had already been thoroughly cowed by Zhang Lingyu's glare. Now that he was called out by Zhang Lingyu like this, he couldn't say a word in retort, and could only draw a blank.

Rather, it was the audience's wheels that started turning.

When Xu Guohui had first let the cat out of the bag, everyone's attention had been on Zhang Lingyu and Wang Guangning's sexual orientation, and they paid Xu Guohui no mind. Now with Zhang Lingyu's words, they noticed some problems. Why did Xu Guohui have these photos? Why did he choose to do this in front of everyone?

Setting aside the question of the photos' origins for now, though everyone had been excited by the release of such explosive news, they didn't agree with Xu Guohui's way of doing things. A person who didn't respect other

people's privacy and even exposed them in public like this — to be involved with such a person, even to cooperate with them, was something that ought to be considered very carefully indeed.

And so, the whispers shifted from the topic of Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu's scandal to Xu Guohui's character.

As Xu Guohui felt the gazes surrounding him turn to suspicion and disdain, he felt a chill coming over him. Finally, he couldn't take it anymore and fled.

When the product exhibition drew to a close, Old Zhou and Wang Guangning checked the inventory, and found that the number of orders exceeded their expectations by 20 percent.

It turned out that Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu coming out of the closet not only did no damage to Fumaokaisi's image, but everyone ended up thinking that Wang Guangning was bold and responsible, as well as honest and practical. More than ever before, they felt reassured to work with him.

Seeing that the crisis had taken a favourable turn, Old Zhou was naturally all smiles. Right there, with much aplomb, he promised a raise for Wang Guangning.

Wang Guangning was relieved that the exhibition hadn't taken a hit because of him. Truth be told, when he stood onstage, he'd been prepared to lose everything.

Thankfully, so very thankfully

That night, Old Zhou treated all the staff to a meal. He slapped Wang Guangning on the shoulder and asked him to bring along Zhang Lingyu.

Wang Guangning wanted to politely decline at first. On the one hand, he just wanted to conduct a quiet romance with Zhang Lingyu, rather than be

so high profile about it. Moreover, Zhang Lingyu was a member of Huidi International after all.

On the other hand, Old Zhou felt their relationship had unwittingly helped fuel a lot of interest at their exhibition, and so he insisted on Zhang Lingyu's presence. It would have been ungracious to turn down such a sincere invitation, so Wang Guangning ended up bringing along Zhang Lingyu.

Fortunately, Zhang Lingyu wasn't into acting coy, so he didn't refuse.

Dinner was held at a reasonably priced eatery that did local cuisine well. Fumaokaisi's staff and some ad hoc workers totalled more than twenty, and sat at two tables.

Old Zhou, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu naturally sat at the same table. Old Zhou was in a good mood and ordered plenty of dishes. There were even duplicates of the spicy salted prawns and oyster-sauce crabs.

Having been busy the whole day, everyone was famished and wolfing down the food. They were abuzz with happiness.

Of course, in the midst of eating, it was also important to peep at Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu now and then.

Though Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu had come out of the closet so openly, they weren't acting lovey-dovey. In fact, they were just focusing on their own food, rather than putting on a show of feeding each other — much to everyone's disappointment!

Since Old Zhou had the discretion to order so many plates of prawns and crabs, shouldn't a good *gong* peel and feed them to the *shou*? (Old Zhou: I'm an innocent bystander, OK?)

The admin girl and her friends were chewing crabs while casting aspersions. = =

“Guangning~” Old Zhou gulped down some beer, and slapped Wang Guangning on the shoulder: “You sure have hidden depths! No wonder you didn’t like any of the girls I introduced to you. I thought you were setting your sights too high — turns out you already had someone, hahaha

Turning to Zhang Lingyu, he cheekily laughed: “Xiao Zhang is not bad, quite compatible with Guangning!”

Zhang Lingyu smiled: “Thank you for the compliment. Actually, you’re not wrong to say that Guangning sets his sights quite high — so don’t introduce any more girls to him!”

Hearing this, Old Zhou was taken aback — then laughed out loud: “Certainly, certainly. I wouldn’t dare to anyway — it would be tough to find someone was outstanding as you!”

Wei Yiwen, who was silently looking on, murmured: “No wonder, no wonder~”

No wonder Zhang Lingyu had helped Wang Guangning by recommending staff.

But just as he said that, Yu Jing stuffed a crab leg in his mouth: “This piece is fleshy. Eat more. Talk less.”

Wei Yiwen’s lip was cut by the shell on the crab leg. He frowned and slapped away Yu Jing’s hand, but didn’t say anything else and focused on chewing the crab leg.

Old Zhou had a good sense of humour, and the Fumaokaisi staff were all quite young. Everyone got along really well, and the meal was happy and harmonious.

It was only that, right to the end, the admin girl and her friends didn’t get to see Zhang Lingyu feed Wang Guangning, which was a matter of great regret.

ABG30D c57

Fumaokaisi's product exhibition went on for three days. After Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu's scandal exploded on the first day, so did the number of attendees.

Although everyone had differing opinions on Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu coming out of the closet so publicly, those who wished them well were in the majority.

And the direct advantage of having so many more attendees was that the number of orders also increased. When the three-day exhibition was over, Fumaokaisi actually received twice as many orders as expected at the beginning.

The status of the whole marketing department rose accordingly, and it was basically guaranteed that every person would be up for a raise in the next round of budgeting.

Not long after came news from the industry — Xu Guohui had resigned from DM China and joined a small private enterprise as its marketing head. His title was higher by a level, but his salary was a little lower. The specific details of what happened weren't clear, but those familiar with the workings of the industry could make a good guess. On the face of it, Xu Guohui left DM on his own initiative, but the truth was most definitely that DM had fired him. After causing such a ruckus at Fumaokaisi's product exhibition, his trustworthiness and character fell under great suspicion. DM China was already deeply troubled by the intrusion of Fumaokaisi into the market, so leaving in place a marketing manager with such a poor name would have called their own reputation into question. Moreover, Xu Guohui had gone against regulations by approving salaries way past the company's principles of fairness, so the head office naturally couldn't allow him to continue with

them. Business worked like this — when a company wanted to fire someone, especially someone in a high position like Xu Guohui, they would do their best to negotiate and have the other party resign, rather than pay out a large sum as compensation. The marketing staff member who had originally moved to Fumaokaisi, then was lured back by Xu Guohui with the promise of twice his salary, also resigned not long after. The southern China branch of DM China restructured its marketing department.

DM China's central marketing department approached Wang Guangning a few times, hoping that he would join them and take over Xu Guohui's position. But even the title of senior manager and a raise of 30 percent were both rejected by Wang Guangning.

Afterwards, it was heard that the small enterprise Xu Guohui joined only did ordinarily, with not much of a pickup in business. Xu Guohui had the title of marketing head, but didn't have much career development. But all this was what happened later on.

Wang Guangning was finally done with the exhibition. Old Zhou knew he had indeed suffered for his work, so now that the company operations were running smoothly in the right direction, he readily granted him a few days of leave.

Since Wang Guangning was able to relax into a regular rhythm of getting to and off work on time, he had a talk with Zhang Lingyu about heading home, now that he could get some days off.

Zhang Lingyu was preparing pork-rib soup when he heard this, and after giving it some thought, he said: "Let's wait for two more days then. When I'm done handing over my work, we'll go back together."

Wang Guangning didn't quite understand: "Handing over?"

Zhang Lingyu felt guilty. He hesitated a moment before answering: "Uh, I resigned from my company. It's been approved by the head office. Been doing the handover these few days. Last day is the end of this week."

“Why didn’t you tell me!” Wang Guangning raged as he sprung over to Zhang Lingyu, and shook his shoulders wildly. “Why resign suddenly?”

Zhang Lingyu pressed on Wang Guangning’s shoulders, trying to get him to calm down: “Don’t get too upset

“How can I not be upset?” Wang Guangning cut him off, fuming. “You resigned just like that. Did you consider what I would think? Do you want me to support the family by myself? Dream on!”

Though Zhang Lingyu didn’t give the reason, Wang Guangning didn’t have to guess it was because of their relationship. Huidi International and Fumaokaisi were direct competitors. When Wang Guangning had chosen to work with DM China’s distributors rather than Huidi International’s distributors, it was more or less because he didn’t want to clash head-on with Huidi International. Zhang Lingyu leaving Huidi was definitely because he didn’t want their relationship to put him in a difficult position with Old Zhou.

They were too close. Even if Old Zhou wouldn’t suspect him of betraying the company, he could imagine the possibility of him inadvertently revealing some company secret to Zhang Lingyu. If some kind of sensitivity was to arise later in competition with Huidi, Wang Guangning wouldn’t be able to escape suspicion.

After their relationship had been revealed, Wang Guangning was weighing how to manage this issue. He’d actually also considered leaving Fumaokaisi himself.

But he hadn’t expected Zhang Lingyu to take that step ahead of him.

To say he wasn’t moved would be a lie. But more than that, he was angry!

Dmned Zhang Lingyu, doing this, wasn’t he trapping himself for a lifetime?

Zhang Lingyu laughed, and easily caught the ruffled Wang Guangning in his arms: “If I’d told you earlier, you would definitely have opposed

“Knowing I would oppose, you still did this?” Wang Guangning’s arms were held tight by Wang Guangning and couldn’t move, so he could only pretend to bite his neck.

“It’s better that I leave than you leave.” Zhang Lingyu looked into his eyes with the gentlest of expressions. “HR isn’t limited by industry. I have many more options, but you’re in the marketing department, so even if you leave Fumaokaisi, you’d have to remain in the same industry what’s more, you just established a foothold in the market. Now that it’s time to reap the harvest, it’s too much of a pity to leave.”

Wang Guangning was speechless.

Fumaokaisi’s southern China market could be said to have been singlehandedly pioneered by him. To hand it over to someone else on a silver platter, of course he wouldn’t be willing. But

“I will clarify first — I’m not going to feed you.” said Wang Guangning huffily, turning his head to the side.

A full-grown man, how could he not have his own career.

Don’t think that just by insisting you’re doing this for me, I can’t suss out you’re secretly hoping to shamefully mooch off me.

“Oh dear, you caught me.” Zhang Lingyu smiled as he kissed him on the ear. “What’s wrong with feeding me. I’ll cook for you in the day and warm your bed at night. Wouldn’t it be good to be a full-time house husband?”

“Not good.” Wang Guangning harrumphed. “After we see my parents, you quickly go and find work.”

“OK, don’t worry about this.” Zhang Lingyu kissed his cheek. “Actually, I’ve been in discussions with a few companies. Their terms are all quite good. When we return from our break, it should be all sorted out. So, let’s use this time well and date properly!”

Only then did Wang Guangning stop worrying.

“All right then, my dear, you go watch TV first. When I’m done with the pork-rib soup, we can have dinner.” Zhang Lingyu let go of Wang Guangning, took up a ladle, and turned round to stir the pork ribs and kudzu roots in the electric pot.

Wang Guangning didn’t go to the living room as requested, but hugged him from behind, his hands moving all over Zhang Lingyu’s body.

Zhang Lingyu was wearing a thin T-shirt and a pair of jeans. One hand of Wang Guangning was feeling up his chest, rubbing the protrusion covered by the T-shirt.

Zhang Lingyu took a deep breath: “Guangning, not right now let me finish stewing the pork ribs.”

Wang Guangning ignored him. His other hand wandered south, pulled down the zipper on Zhang Lingyu’s jeans, and reached inside.

Sure enough, a certain part had become rather beastly.

Wang Guangning played with the part, lightly then heavily, touching till Zhang Lingyu was breathing unevenly and couldn’t bear it any longer. He threw down the ladle and turned around: “Courting death?”

Wang Guangning quirked an eyebrow and smiled.

For Xiao *Shou* to have been teasing to this point, if he didn’t respond, could he still pass as a *gong*?

Zhang Lingyu embraced Wang Guangning and pressed forward, pushing him against the edge of the kitchen counter. With one hand, he loosened the cord on Wang Guangning’s casual-wear trousers, and felt his way in.

cough Cooking river crab [homonym of euphemism for love-making] in the kitchen was a most delicious affair.

When Zhang Lingyu was done with the handover at work, Wang Guangning's leave was officially approved. The two of them packed simply and set off for Wang Guangning's family home in S City.

It was the first time that Zhang Lingyu would meet his parents-in-law, so he was terribly nervous. He bought quite a few expensive presents and wore the clothes Wang Guangning had bought for him. Only after fiddling about for half a day was he satisfied with his appearance.

Wang Guangning, seeing how nervous he was, couldn't help mocking him: "Are you preparing to dress up as a woman to go home with me?"

Zhang Lingyu couldn't be bothered with Wang Guangning's mockery and adjusted his fringe once more: "First time meeting *Yuefu* and *Yuemu*, of course I have to leave a good impression."

Wang Guangning stamped his foot: "It's *Gonggong* and *Popo*." [Recall there's a difference in how parents-in-law are addressed, depending on whether they're the husband's or wife's parents.]

Zhang Lingyu wasn't in the mood to argue over whose was the husband's family and whose was the wife's family, so he simply raised the presents that had been prepared and announced: "OK, darling, let's go!"

G City was about two hours by car from S City. The two of them drove and soon arrived at the centre of S City.

Zhang Lingyu followed Wang Guangning's navigation and drove to a reputable area of S City's centre. After parking, he and Wang Guangning carried their things and took the lift to the 17th floor.

They were silent on the way up. Even when they arrived before the main door of Wang Guangning's family home, Zhang Lingyu didn't utter a sound.

"It's OK. I'm here, right?" Wang Guangning smiled as he saw how Zhang Lingyu was so nervous that his usual talkativeness was gone, though he himself wasn't any calmer.

“That should be my line.” Zhang Lingyu leaned over to kiss Wang Guangning on the corner of his lips. “I won’t let you be wronged.”

Wang Guangning pressed the doorbell.

The door was quickly opened by a kindly, middle-aged woman.

“Ma, I’m back,” said Wang Guangning.

Zhang Lingyu felt his scalp go numb and intoned mechanically: “Auntie, how are you.”

Mama Wang was delighted when she saw Wang Guangning, but when she caught sight of Zhang Lingyu standing beside him, it looked as though she just thought of something. The joy on her face disappeared and she said stiffly, “Come in first.”

As it was the weekend, Papa Wang was watching TV in the living room. When he caught sight of Wang Guangning, with a man next to him, he turned gloomy in an instant: “What are you doing coming back?”

Wang Guangning placed the things in his hands on the cabinet next to the door. He looked at Papa Wang and Mama Wang, and said seriously: “Pa, Ma, this time I’ve brought my partner home to meet you.”

Zhang Lingyu hurriedly said: “Uncle, Auntie, how are you. My name is Zhang Lingyu. I’m Guangning’s boyfriend.”

Papa Wang suddenly stood up, his temper as frayed as a ragged cloth, looking as though he was about to explode. But he held back in the end. Without another word, he turned and waved them off, before returning to his room and slamming the door with all his might to make a loud bang.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu were shocked. But to not have been thrown out on the spot was already much better than what Wang Guangning had expected.

Mama Wang sighed: “Come over and sit.”

Once they were seated, Mama Wang gave Zhang Lingyu a look over. Seeing that Zhang Lingyu was tall and elegant, as well as extraordinarily handsome and poised, she was filled with mixed emotions.

Naturally, she didn't hope for her son to be gay. But seeing that her son's partner was so outstanding, she was a little relieved. This kind of feeling — she couldn't tell if it was happiness or sadness.

Wang Guangning held his mother's hand: "Ma, I'm sorry. I've made you and Pa upset."

When Mama Wang first heard that Wang Guangning liked men, she was so sad that she couldn't sleep for a few days. Now that a long while had passed, though she hadn't accepted the situation completely, she had at least calmed down considerably. She sighed again: "Look at you two grown men, why did you have to get into this"

Wang Guangning said, "Ma, this isn't a disease. I truly want to live well with Lingyu. You don't have to worry."

Zhang Lingyu also added in a hurry: "Auntie, trust me. I will take good care of Guangning."

Mama Wang looked at Zhang Lingyu, her face full of worry: "How would two men live well together"

Wang Guangning said, "Ma, living well just means living together with the one I love, and it's not only when it's a man and a woman. I'm living very happily with Lingyu now. Please have confidence in us."

Mama Wang didn't continue with this topic. She asked about the latest updates from Wang Guangning, then seeing that it was dinner time, said: "Sit back for now. I'll go cook."

Zhang Lingyu shot up immediately: "Auntie, you chat with Guangning. It's fine if I do the cooking."

Mama Wang looked at Zhang Lingyu, clearly in doubt: "No need, I'll go."

Wang Guangning leapt at the opportunity: “The two of you go cook. I’ll watch TV on my own.”

Mama Wang could only head into the kitchen uneasily with Zhang Lingyu.

She had planned to just let Zhang Lingyu assist her. After all, she was the clearest about the ability of her own son to ruin a kitchen. This young man in front of her now didn’t appear to be much better than her son.

She didn’t imagine that Zhang Lingyu’s performance would far surpass her expectations. He was a deft hand at choosing and washing vegetables, and slicing and dicing on the chopping board. He even had the air of a chef as he started frying up a storm.

In the end, it was Mama Wang who was the assistant.

If it wasn’t because his bearing didn’t show a trace of him being a chef, Mama Wang would have suspected her son had found one as a partner.

When Zhang Lingyu had prepared all the dishes, Mama Wang stood at the dinner table laden with a full set of fragrant dishes, speechless.

Son, you’re both men — why is there such a big difference between your partner and you?

Mama Wang went to call Papa Wang out of the room for dinner.

The four of them were seated at the table. Papa Wang still looked terrible.

Zhang Lingyu served up the soup. When he placed a bowl of soup in front of Papa Wang, Papa Wang suddenly said: “I don’t approve of the two of you being together.”

Zhang Lingyu went still. He set down the bowl, and said seriously: “Uncle, I know that you’re so angry because you want what’s good for Guangning. I’m the same as you, I’ll also be very good to him. Please don’t oppose so quickly. Give us a bit of time, and we’ll prove it to you

Mama Wang listened halfway before she turned away, silently shedding tears.

Papa Wang coldly snorted: “Be good to him? How will you be good to him? Do his laundry? Cook for him? Bear children for him? Can you do all this?”

Wang Guangning couldn’t help but interrupt: “Pa, you’re describing a nanny, not a partner.”

“You shut up.” Papa Wang hollered.

Zhang Lingyu patted Wang Guangning on the arm, and tried again with Papa Wang: “Uncle, Auntie, what you hope that a wife can do for Guangning, apart from bearing children, I’m willing to do it all for him. Please give us your approval.”

It was all so much for Papa Wang that he couldn’t say a word.

It had been quite a while since Wang Guangning had made that call home. After the initial shock, Papa Wang and Mama Wang could only feel helpless.

It was a different era from before, with information streaming in from all corners. Papa Wang had gone to try and understand some of it, which held that homosexuality wasn’t a disease but an orientation. And the possibility of adjusting the orientation was very low.

If this had happened to someone else, he might even have breezily helped to persuade their parents. But for this to happen in his own household, though he wasn’t someone who was thoroughly thickheaded, it wasn’t easy for him to accept this wholeheartedly.

He looked at Zhang Lingyu. Because of his initial outburst, he hadn’t taken a close look. Now that Zhang Lingyu was speaking so sincerely, he couldn’t help but give him a second look.

He saw before him a young man of top-class looks and bearing, with an expression in his eyes that was clear and upright, revealing genuine love

and concern.

If he wasn't a man, he would undoubtedly be the ideal choice, one you couldn't take your eyes off.

Papa Wang silently sighed once more: "After finishing this meal, you two leave. I don't want to see you for now."

"Old Wang, what's the point for you to" Mama Wang wanted to say a few words in persuasion, but stopped at a look from Papa Wang.

Wang Guangning's heart sank. He ate silently alongside Zhang Lingyu.

In any case, as long as Father wasn't so angry that he wanted to disown him, it wasn't considered too bad.

The author has something to say

1. Before a company fires someone, they'd first negotiate with the worker and try to persuade them to resign. This is because firing someone requires compensation, that's to say, $n + 1$ month's salary. If it's a high-level or long-serving worker, the compensation amount would be huge (a manager at [the author] Ah Zhi's former company had been fired and was paid 30,000 in compensation). The usual way of persuasion was like this: resigning sounds better than getting fired, and before the worker heads to the next company, there would usually be a background check, so the present company will make an effort to say a few good words on their behalf. This is why a lot of people end up choosing to resign.
2. The story has Zhang Lingyu resigning because HR is usually not circumscribed by industry. Along with finance and administration, HR is roughly the same everywhere, so Zhang Lingyu can go to any other industry. But as for marketing and sales, there's a lot that's curtailed by the type of industry, so it's harder to develop across industries.

ABG30D c58

The 30th Event of Being Gay: Use Your Whole Life to Love Each Other

After the meal, Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu left in a huff.

Papa Wang was at the dining table, smoking. Mama Wang watched him and sighed to herself: “Old Wang, why did you have to put them in such a bind!”

Papa Wang didn’t say a word. Mama Wang spoke up again: “Actually, that kid seems pretty good. Though he’s a boy, I can tell he looks like someone you can get along with.”

Papa Wang got impatient: “On what basis can you tell he’s someone you can get along with?”

Now Mama Wang was riled up too. She stood up and started clearing the dishes from the table: “On the basis that he’s the one who made this meal.”

Papa Wang choked on his cigarette smoke and coughed for quite a while: “Did you just say he made this meal?”

Papa Wang was in a bad mood today, and his appetite was poor as well. But he could still taste a difference to the dinner tonight. He’d thought Mama Wang had bought the food from outside — so it turned out Zhang Lingyu actually made it.

Mama Wang: “Yes, and I watched him do it.”

Papa Wang no longer uttered a sound.

When Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu left the family home, it was already dark. Zhang Lingyu looked over at Wang Guangning, and smiled helplessly: “What should we do now? Return to G City?”

Wang Guangning looked around — the weather was really good today. It was fine and cloudless. He replied: “Do you want to see the stars?”

Zhang Lingyu: “.....”

Wang Guangning looked back at him and laughed: “Have you forgotten? That time we were at Moon Lake watching the stars, I’d promised to bring you to my hometown to see the stars there.”

Zhang Lingyu recalled it right then — when they were on that agreement of being gay, when they were at Moon lake, when they had made that promise.

“OK, all right, let’s go and have a look.” Zhang Lingyu reached over to kiss Wang Guangning. Wang Guangning left the car to buy some snacks and beer, before they started off.

Wang Guangning’s hometown was about four hours by car from S City. It was a backward little mountain village. Fortunately, a few years ago, the roads had been repaired, so cars could at least enter the area.

By the time the two arrived at the village outskirts, it was past 11. Villagers tended to sleep early, so the whole place was pitch black. Only the road that went past the village entrance had a streetlamp, casting down an amber light.

As the whole village was in darkness, Zhang Lingyu followed Wang Guangning’s directions to stop the car at the village entrance. The two of them alighted. Across the sky, a million stars were glittering. There was even a full moon. Under the bright moonlight, they could vaguely make out the village contours and undulating hills in the distance. It was quiet all around, except for the low humming of insects. If they listened carefully, they could even make out the sound of running water; there must be a brook nearby.

“Afraid?” Wang Guangning grinned at Zhang Lingyu. This sort of remote and quiet village — if it wasn’t someone who was already familiar with the place, to stay outside here at night for long, it can indeed make your hair stand on end.

Zhang Lingyu smiled back: “You’re here. Not afraid.”

Wang Guangning’s left hand was holding the snacks and beer, so he reached out with his right hand: “Come. *Gege* [older brother] will take you star-gazing.”

Zhang Lingyu placed his left hand on Wang Guangning’s hand, then held it tightly, interlocking their fingers.

“Suddenly, I kind of miss the days when we were ‘being gay’,” said Wang Guangning. They were so young then, muddle-headed as they tested each other out. That winter, they had also interlocked their fingers and placed their hands in one pocket. Though what happened later on became even more muddled, holding each other’s hands felt really warm.

“Me too.” Zhang Lingyu stole a kiss. “I’ve never forgotten a single moment we had together.”

Wang Guangning held him by the hand and turned into a little lane that meandered through the middle of a piece of land. It was about a metre wide and bordered by a canal that had been dug out manually. Now and then, a frog or two would leap past. On both sides of the lane was farmland filled with rice fields and vegetable patches. The land was divided into parcels by ridges and the knee-high rice plants were gently swaying with the night breeze, rippling like water.

Wang Guangning and Zhang Lingyu strolled slowly, hand in hand. There was no streetlamp, but the whole lane was lit up by the silvery moonlight. After adjusting to this lighting, they could see even more clearly.

A summer’s night felt really comfortable, especially in the open country — the air was filled only with the fresh fragrance of flora and running water,

and only the natural sound of insects could be heard. None of this could be experienced in a big city.

At the end of the lane was a man-made embankment. Wang Guangning led Zhang Lingyu over it. On the other side of the embankment was yet another sight.

It was a wide brook, with flat grassland on either side of it.

The two walked toward the brook. Zhang Lingyu found that although the brook was wide, it was shallow — just up to the knee. Under the bright moonlight, the brook appeared exceptionally clear. You could even make out the rocks on the bed of the brook.

Wang Guangning pulled Zhang Lingyu with him to the side of the brook, only stopping when they arrived next to a large rock.

It was a rock about two metres across and one metre high, and steeped in the brook. The part above the water reached as high as their thigh, but the top of the rock turned out to be flat.

“Here’s the best place to gaze at the stars.” Wang Guangning went ahead and sat on top of the rock. Zhang Lingyu followed and sat down beside him.

They took off their shoes and placed them on the grass behind the rock, then placed their bare feet in the water.

The water was a little chilly, so soaking their feet felt really good.

Zhang Lingyu closed his eyes and took a deep breath.

There was a dense canopy of stars above them, as though someone had scattered small diamonds across a dark blue curtain.

The night breeze was intoxicating, and the brook water was cooling.

“So beautiful,” Zhang Lingyu said. “Thank you for bringing me here to witness this sight.”

Wang Guangning handed him a can of cold beer.

Zhang Lingyu received the can, opened it, and took in a mouthful. Then he quickly shifted over and sealed Wang Guangning's lips, flowing the beer into his mouth.

The two of them entangled in a kiss for a long while.

When they parted, a trace of silver lingered between them.

"We will be together for a very, very long time. And we'll witness many, many more sights together," said Wang Guangning, as he licked off the beer that dribbled from the corner of Zhang Lingyu's mouth.

"Yes," replied Zhang Lingyu. Abruptly, he set down the beer can, then tugged Wang Guangning's left hand over. Something cold was slipped over his ring finger.

Wang Guangning looked down — it was the pull ring of the beer can.

"Does this count as a proposal?" Wang Guangning cocked an eyebrow.

"This is the promise first." Zhang Lingyu smiled: "Maybe we won't be able to become partners in the eyes of the law, but I will promise to use my whole life to love you. Do you accept?"

"All right, then." Wang Guangning also opened a can of beer, and slipped the pull ring onto Zhang Lingyu: "I accept."

After a moment, he added: "When we get back to G City, you have to buy a real one to make up for this."

The night was long, but the time that could be spent together was short.

When the sky began to brighten, the two of them started their journey back while the villagers were still asleep. Departing the village, and not having slept the whole night, Wang Guangning was worried that Zhang Lingyu

would exhaust himself driving. He only allowed him to drive as far as a small town nearby, before finding an inn to sleep for a while.

They only awoke at noon.

Zhang Lingyu washed up simply in the bathroom. He came out, only to see Wang Guangning staring blankly at his phone.

“What happened?” Zhang Lingyu asked.

Wang Guangning turned to him, still unbelieving, but overjoyed: “My dad is telling us to go back for a meal.”

Zhang Lingyu was ecstatic: “Really?”

Wang Guangning nodded.

Zhang Lingyu leapt over to embrace him: “That’s wonderful.”

Our love has finally been accepted by everyone.

Nothing else can stop us from being together.

In the long years ahead of us, we will walk together as one, into our old age.

ABG30D extra 1

Husbands' 100-Question Aptitude Test: Part I

[Please note that this extra is meant to be a fun interjection and is outside the scope of the main story.]

1. Could you please introduce yourselves first?

ZLY: My name is Zhang Lingyu. Everyone calls me elegant, charming, and charismatic!

WGN: I'm Wang Guangning. Everyone calls me handsome, debonair, and very clever!

Ah Zhi [the author]: = = + Charismatic and Clever, how do you do!

Hkt: Wow, is this a new duo? Welcome to our Vietnamese Heavenly Group, mwah!

ZLY, WGN:

2. Age this year?

ZLY: My zodiac sign is the tiger!

WGN:

ZLY: *Shoushou*, why aren't you answering?

WGN: Rabbit.

ZLY: Pooh——*cough cough*, this shows that we're a match made in heaven! The old saying is right tiger *gong* and rabbit *shou* make the best pair!

Ah Zhi: Which saying is this? Never heard of it

ZLY: Get lost!

3. Your best asset?

ZLY: Looks good!

WGN: Smart!

Ah Zhi: You guys really dare to say this

4. The other's best asset?

WGN: Cooks well.

ZLY: Has manners. *unhappy*

5. When did you first meet?

WGN, ZLY: Military training in the first year of university.

6. First impression of each other?

ZLY: *Cough* Egomaniac!

WGN: Yeah, ugly freak!

ZLY: *Shoushou*, you must have been mistaken, that must have been the person next to me!

WGN: Next to you? Who's that?

ZLY: Li Sihong. [see [chapter 14](#)]

Ah Zhi: You're still not letting off this person, huh

7. What do you usually call each other?

ZLY: *Shoushou*.

WGN: Zhang Lingyu.

ZLY: Not sweet at all. *Shoushou*, do call me husband [lit. old *gong* — pun on “husband”] from now on!

WGN: How does calling you eunuch [lit. *gong gong* — pun on “eunuch”] sound?

ZLY: Uh, sounds bad.

8. What would you choose as a gift for each other?

ZLY: SpongeBob SquarePants!

WGN:

ZLY: Hahahahaha, all *shoushou*'s don't have a conscience. You truly don't know what I like!

WGN *red-faced*: Isn't it me!

ZLY: Then, gimme now! Come, just one mwah ~

WGN: Get outta here!

9. Where did you go for your first date? What did you do?

ZLY: Went on a walk

WGN: Bought couple outfits

10. What was your mood at the time?

WGN: Why weren't there SpongeBob SquarePants couple outfits! *Angry*

(ㄟ_ㄟ)#

ZLY: Good thing we didn't buy SpongeBob SquarePants couple outfits
..... post-traumatic stress!

WGN: Zhang Lingyu!

ZLY: Ah! It's deep regret!

Ah Zhi: Zhang Lingyu, you are truly are henpecked [lit. by the *shou* instead of the wife] ~

11. Who confessed first?

WGN: Him, of course! *proud*

ZLY: But the very first to want to confess was him, only that he wasn't able to say it ~

Ah Zhi: Zhang Lingyu, you still dare to speak of it!

WGN: Zhang! Ling! Yu!

ZLY: No, nothing like that! I'm the one who confessed first! I coveted *Shoushou's* beauty, and couldn't extricate myself ~

12. If you suspect the other of a change of heart, what would you do?

ZLY: *Shoushou* would definitely not be unfaithful to me!

WGN: Yup, burst his chrysanthemum once, then break up!

Ah Zhi: Could you be more reserved, please, our school's handsome guy ~

WGN: Yup, reservedly burst his chrysanthemum!

ZLY: *Shoushou*, don't worry, I will only love you my whole life! *serious face*

13. Could you forgive the other for a change of heart?

ZLY: *Shoushou* will definitely not be unfaithful to me!

WGN: Yes, if he changes gender!

ZLY: *Shoushou*, don't worry, I will only love you my whole life! *serious face*

14. Have you had an argument?

WGN: Often!

ZLY: Beatings express closeness and scoldings express affection! [allusion to an idiom about flirting through bantering]

WGN: Come, lemme have a kiss [pun on the word for "closeness"]!

ZLY: Wow, *Shoushou* is taking the lead! *brings face over*

pia—

ZLY: *Shoushou*, why did you hit me?

WGN: Beatings express closeness!

ZLY:

15. What do you argue about?

WGN: Of course, it's when he comes up with fanciful ideas.

Ah Zhi: Such as?

WGN: Sometimes, he would have the unrealistic thought that he's more handsome than me!

ZLY: *Shoushou*, you shouldn't take advantage of the fact that I love you to suppress me!

WGN: Then between us, who's more handsome?

ZLY: You.

16. How do you show that you love him?

WGN: Cook for him!

ZLY: Eat the food that he cooks.

Ah Zhi: They truly love each other, yeah ~

17. Do you get a sense of inferiority when you're together?

ZLY, WGN: I'm afraid he'll feel inferior.

Ah Zhi: Could you be more shameless?

18. Are you the *shou* or the *gong*?

WGN: I'm the *gong*!

ZLY: *cough* I'm the *gong* at home, and act as the *shou* outside!

Love him, so pretend to be *shou* for him!

19. This question is for Wang Guangning — if Zhang Lingyu and SpongeBob SquarePants both fall into the water at the same time, who would you save?

WGN: Call him to help me save SpongeBob SquarePants.

ZLY: T T *Shoushou*, SpongeBob SquarePants wouldn't be afraid of the water

WGN: Oh, that's right.

Ah Zhi: Hahahahaha

20. What can't you stand about each other the most?

WGN: Childish!

ZLY: Unwilling to be childish with me!

Ah Zhi: What counts as being childish with you?

ZLY: Play Plants vs. Zombies with me, pretend to be Chomper protected by Peanut.

WGN: It's Wall-nut, thanks!

21. What does the other do that makes you really happy?

WGN: Admit that I'm more handsome and smarter than him.

ZLY: T T If *Shoushou* is happy, then I'm happy!

22. If the other person is late for a date by more than an hour, what would you do?

ZLY: Wait until he turns up

WGN: Yup, he'd probably turn up only an hour earlier!

23. When did you first feel moved by the other person?

ZLY: Should be when we went star-gazing together. That time, I ... got hard!

WGN: +1.

Ah Zhu: You guys are so bold!

24. When did you think he might not love you anymore?

ZLY: When he's with SpongeBob SquarePants?

WGN: When he was with Luo Zihui.

Ah Zhu: Kneel quickly, Zhang Lingyu!

ZLY: QAQ You still remember after so many years

25. So, is Dafa's surname Zhang or Wang?

WGN: Wang, of course.

ZLY: Wang *ba* [together, the homophone for sonafabtch]

WGN: You're the SOB! Your whole family's full of SOBs!

ZLY: *Shoushou*, don't say it like that — you're my whole family now!

ABG30D extra 2

Husbands' 100-Question Aptitude Test: Part II

26. If you were to compare each other to an animal, which one would it be?

WGN: Motherfckr! [i.e., the homophone “grass mud horse”]

ZLY:

WGN: *cough* It's alpaca! Alpaca! [i.e., an innocent reference to “grass mud horse”]

Ah Zhi: Why? [Ah Zhi is a diminutive of the author's name, Lin Zhiluo]

WGN: Cos he's a dummy! [in Beijing dialect]

ZLY:

Ah Zhi: Zhang Lingyu, what do you feel Wang Guangning is like?

ZLY: SpongeBob SquarePants.

Ah Zhi: SpongeBob SquarePants is not an animal, OK? O_O

ZLY: Don't care, he just is!

27. What does the other party do that displeases you?

ZLY: Too well-mannered with girls!

WGN: = =||| What rubbish! I'm the Little Prince of Refinement. Of course I'd have manners. You're just envious!

ZLY: No, I'm jealous.

Ah Zhi:, Don't flirt in public!

WGN: There's only one thing he did that made me upset.

Ah Zhi: Zhang Lingyu, you should quickly kneel!

ZLY: Orz. Sorry, Zihui, you're being dragged out as an exhibit again.

28. How do you really want to treat the other party?

WGN: Just be together always, in peace and stability.

ZLY: Heheheheh, of course sleep with him!

WGN: (͡_ ͡)#

ZLY: *cough cough* Harmony, to pay attention to harmony!

29. What level has your relationship developed to?

WGN: It's a very good level.

Ah Zhi: How good is very good?

ZLY: To the level of harmony. [harmony is the euphemism for sexual relations]

30. Have you ever lied to the other party?

ZLY: No, I'm sincere toward *Shoushou*!

WGN: Yup, once.

ZLY: O_O When?

WGN: Not telling you.

Ah Zhi: It should be that time you were soaked in the rain, when you wanted to confess but didn't get to do so.

ZLY: Really? Did you want to confess to me then? *ecstatic*

Ah Zhi: Don't get too happy. Think about what you were doing at that time?

ZLY: Ugh sorry, Zihui, you're brought out as an exhibit again.

31. When do you feel that you're being loved?

WGN: When he cooks a big meal for me.

ZLY: When he throws a tantrum at me.

WGN: When have I ever thrown a tantrum at you! (#`')

ZLY: See, just like that!

32. What's the sexiest expression the other party makes?

WGN: When he's being serious.

Ah Zhi: When has he ever been serious?

WGN: That's why it should be cherished!

ZLY: When he's throwing a tantrum → (#`')

WGN:

Ah Zhi: Zhang Lingyu, you masochist.

33. Which part of your body do you feel the other party likes the most?

WGN: Uh, the face!

ZLY: It must be the six pack.

WGN:

34. Which part of the other party's body do you like the best?

WGN: The eyes!

ZLY: The face, yeah!

35. How much do you like the other party?

WGN: Just as much as I like myself.

Ah Zhi: For a narcissist to say that, it must mean really, really like!

ZLY: *hands drawing the shape of a circle* More than this.

Ah Zhi:

36. When you're together, what makes your heart beat the fastest?

WGN: When running.

Ah Zhi: OK, exercise does indeed quicken the heartbeat.

ZLY: Of course, it's when we're kissing. -3-

37. Where is your sensitive spot?

WGN: Waist.

ZLY: If it's when *Shoushou* touches me, I'm sensitive all over.

38. Is your relationship public or secret?

WGN: At the moment, it's secret.

ZLY: Hard to say in the future.

39. Do you feel that the love between the two of you can last forever?

WGN: Ask this question again when I can live forever.

ZLY: Can't say if it's forever, but shouldn't be a problem to last till the end of our lives.

40. What does the other party say that makes it impossible to refuse him?

WGN: Nothing like that at the moment. Whatever he says is easy to refuse.

ZLY: My dear, sleep with me! *drools*

WGN: When have I said this kind of thing?

ZLY: I fantasized about it.

41. What's the other party's sleeping posture like?

WGN: Don't know yet.

ZLY: Will know very soon!

42. What do you most like to eat?

WGN: A lot of things.

ZLY: Of course, it's *Shoushou*!

43. What does the other party most like to eat?

WGN: He's a pig.

ZLY: *Shoushou* likes all the dishes I cook.

44. Before you got together with the other party, did you like someone else?

WGN, ZLY: Let's not mention youthful indiscretions.

Ah Zhi: *cough* Drag Yu Haining out as an exhibit!

45. What's your phone wallpaper?

ZLY: It's *Shoushou*.

WGN: SpongeBob SquarePants.

ZLY: = = I want to pay someone to assassinate SpongeBob SquarePants.

46. Which flower do you feel matches the other party?

ZLY: Money plant! [i.e., [Gollum jade](#)]

Wang Dafa: Dad, that's me!

WGN: Green foxtail. [lit., [Dogtail grass](#)]

Ah Zhi: Didn't you see the question? Which answer of yours was a flower?

47. The other party's hobby is?

WGN: Cooking.

ZLY: Eating.

Ah Zhi: Yes, very compatible!

48. Your hobby is?

WGN: SpongeBob SquarePants.

ZLY: *Shoushou*!

Ah Zhi:

49. Are you satisfied with the present situation?

WGN: Not bad.

ZLY: I'm very dissatisfied with how you keep asking questions so we can't go 'harmonize'.

50. Have you done the perverted stuff?

WGN:

ZLY: Heheh.

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ABG30D extra 3

Husbands' 100-Question Aptitude Test: Part III

51. Location where you first did perverted stuff? [i.e. “H”, the initial letter of the Japanese word for perverted stuff]

WGN: Sofa.

ZLY: Bathroom.

Ah Zhi:

ZLY: *cough* It was the sofa for him, but bathroom for me?

Ah Zhi: *coldly* You had your first time separately?

ZLY, WGN:

52. Reflection on that time?

ZLY: One word — terrific!

WGN: painful.

Ah Zhi: Zhang Lingyu, you should improve your technique!

ZLY: It's not that my technique is bad, it's that my birdy is big!

Ah Zhi: Watch your words in public!

53. How did the other person look at that time?

WGN: Deep in his feels!

ZLY: Luring me!

WGN: Hmm?

ZLY: It was me who first lured him!

54. Your first words the morning after your first night?

ZLY: You're awake!

WGN: You'd prepared to go work in Taiwan?

Ah Zhi: ????????

55. How many times do you H each week?

WGN: Same as number of ab muscles!

Ah Zhi: Yours or Wang Guangning's abs?

WGN: I also have a lot of ab muscles!

ZLY: *cough* Currently, it's Guangning's abs.

56. Under ideal conditions, how many times a week is best?

WGN: The status quo is great!

ZLY: Of course, it's my number of ab muscles!

Ah Zhi: Yo, you can even rest a day!

ZLY: Yeah, have to conserve strength and store up energy, after all!

57. So what kind of H?

WGN: Very normal kind of H

ZLY: The kind of H that lingers in your mind!

58. The other person's most sensitive area is?

WGN: Seems like he's sensitive all over!

ZLY: Waist.

59. Describe the other person during H with one line?

WGN: A wolf in rut.

ZLY: A tormenting little devil!

WGN: Hmm?

ZLY: I'm talking about myself!

60. To be honest, do you like H?

WGN: It's still all right.

ZLY: Can't get enough of it! [i.e. he quotes a classic phrase from an Aaron Kwok song: "love love love without end"]

61. Usual location for H?

WGN: Bed.

ZLY: Yup, bed.

62. Location you've thought of trying?

WGN: *blushes* In the car.

ZLY: Plenty — the study, the kitchen, outdoors, lift

Ah Zhi: The lift?

WGN: The lift?

ZLY: Only thinking of it!
h Zhi: You've got quite the taste!

63. Shower before or after H?

WGN: Before.

ZLY: Actually, it's once before showering, once during showering, and once again after showering

Ah Zhi: What strength! Envious!

64. Any agreement between the two of you regarding H?

WGN: Not to claw at my waist.

ZLY: *cough*

65. Have you had sexual relations with someone other than your partner?

WGN: No.

ZLY: I've 'beaten the stick' to Sola Aoi's movies, does that count?

Ah Zhi: No.

66. To the view that "If I can't have your heart, at least I'll have your body" — yay or nay?

WGN: Isn't that just a one-night stand?

ZLY: A definite nay!

[67. Missing from original]

68. Do you feel embarrassed before H? Or perhaps after?

WGN: Not at all.

ZLY: This is a natural need of adult men — nothing to be embarrassed about.

69. If a good friend were to say to you, "I'm so lonely, so just for tonight, please" and asked for H, what would you do?

WGN: Give them a *jin* (half a kilo) of cucumbers.

ZLY: Introduce [Li Sihong](#) to them.

Ah Zhi: Zhang Xiao Gong, you can truly bear a grudge!

70. Do you think you're good at H?

WGN: Still all right.

ZLY: Literally can't be any better at it.

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ABG30D extra 4

Text Messages

Although Papa Wang and Mama Wang had already relented, it was still nerve-wracking for the two of them when they returned to Wang Guangning's family home once again.

Especially Zhang Lingyu — he was so nervous that he couldn't keep his gaze steady. So when Mama Wang opened the door, Zhang Lingyu went blank and the words came tumbling out: "Ma, we're home."

Mama Wang: "....."

Though on the surface, she'd accepted the addition of a male daughter-in-law, she still needed time to completely accept this in her heart of hearts.

Zhang Lingyu also realized he had gone too far. In that moment, he understood why Wang Guangning had lost control of himself when he met his own mum and dad. And now, his smile was frozen on his face.

Wang Guangning's mouth quirked. He pushed him into the flat and nodded at his mother: "Ma."

Mama Wang didn't say anything and led them into the flat. Papa Wang was the same way as when they had first arrived, sitting on the sofa watching TV. But there was a trace of stiffness in his expression — it was clear that he was still adjusting himself mentally.

"Pa." Wang Guangning called out.

Papa Wang still held a cold expression: "Come over here and watch TV."

Wang Guangning was relieved. At least no harsh words had been said. He was about to pull Zhang Lingyu over when, out of the blue, Papa Wang

pointed at Zhang Lingyu and said: “What are you called?”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Zhang Lingyu gave a quick smile and replied: “Uncle, I’m called Zhang Lingyu.”

Papa Wang’s mouth quirked: “Your name sounds common. Write it down later. I’ll get someone to match it.” [i.e., to check the couple’s compatibility]

Wang Guangning = = |||: “Pa, we’re already in what era?”

Papa Wang glared at Wang Guangning: “Cut the crap, just listen to me.”

Zhang Lingyu also laughed right away: “Yes, just listen to Uncle.”

Only then did Papa Wang waggle his eyebrows in satisfaction: “All right then. It’s Xiao Zhang, right — you go ahead and cook.”

Zhang Lingyu: “.....”

Wang Guangning: “.....”

Mama Wang stood awkwardly at the side and explained: *cough* “Dinner hasn’t been cooked yet. Xiao Zhang, come and cook with me.”

The real reason why they had called them back so urgently was to get Zhang Lingyu to come and cook.

As Wang Guangning sweated silently, Zhang Lingyu rejoiced — thankfully, he had a skill that Father-in-Law appreciated. And so, he fawningly stood at attention and declared: “No problem. Whatever Uncle wants to eat, I will cook right away.”

“OK~” Papa Wang actually gave this some serious thought: “One dish each of chicken, duck and fish. Boil one soup. And also a dish of green veggies.”

Mama Wang rolled her eyes on the spot: “Old man, easy for you to say [lit. just standing there and talking won’t give you a backache; i.e., easier said than done]. There’s only half a soy-sauce chicken left in the kitchen.”

Zhang Lingyu hurriedly cut in: “No problem, we’ll go out and buy the food.”

And so, the enthusiastic, newly appointed son-in-law (Wang Guangning hollering: “It’s daughter-in-law!”) went out to shop with the mother-in-law who was still getting used to the situation.

At the supermarket, Zhang Lingyu relied on the grocery-shopping experience he had accumulated over the years to conquer his mother-in-law’s heart.

“Auntie, this is the kind of fish to choose — the gills are still bright red, the body has a layer of moisture, the eyeballs protrude. This kind is fresher.”

At timely moments, Zhang Lingyu would show off his attainments in this area. But since he was facing an auntie with many years of experience in cooking and grocery-shopping, he had to give her opportunities to show off as well: “But Auntie, I’m not too good at choosing chicken — you’ll have to teach me.”

.....

So it was that after a round of grocery shopping, Zhang Lingyu captured Mama Wang’s heart, and successfully ascended the throne to become ‘A Good Daughter-in-Law of China’.

After returning to Wang Guangning’s family home, Zhang Lingyu trotted out all of his skills, making [minced chicken with white ‘wood ear’](#), [caramelized roasted duck](#), fish boiled in clear soup, [braised fish with cabbage](#), and even [herbal chicken soup](#).

Papa Wang was very satisfied with the meal. He went as far as to open up a bottle of wine halfway through, and chatted a bit with Zhang Lingyu at the

dining table, though it was simply to enquire about his family, work, and so on. Zhang Lingyu answered each question frankly.

After Papa Wang listened to it all, the burden in his heart was lifted at last. At least he had a clean family background, a proper job, and wasn't a messed-up type of person. And so, he didn't make things difficult for them anymore, and took the initiative to invite them to stay over for a night.

Zhang Lingyu and Wang Guangning were naturally delighted. However, Wang Guangning hadn't returned home for a few years, so his room was in a bit of a mess with the belongings he had sent back from Taiwan placed haphazardly around. While Zhang Lingyu was washing up, he took the chance to clean up a little.

Actually, he didn't have a lot of stuff. Before he left Taiwan, he'd given or thrown away what was unnecessary. He only sent back what he couldn't bear to part with or was still useful, such as textbooks, certificates, and clothes, as well as some miscellaneous things.

Since it was rare for Wang Guangning to come home, he took a good look at these items as he cleaned up.

Before leaving, he'd been given a photo album by his classmates there — it was full of his memories from Taiwan. There was also a jar of wishing stars folded by a girl who liked him.

Wang Guangning smiled as he went through the things, and soon came to a mobile phone.

It turned out to be the phone he used when he was still at F Uni. After he went to Taiwan, he changed both his phone and his number. This particular phone had been tossed to a corner, and ended up being sent back along with his belongings.

Come to think of it, this phone had been a witness to that extraordinary agreement between him and Zhang Lingyu.

A most subtle feeling welled up in Wang Guangning as he tried to switch on the phone. As expected, it had run out of battery. He then rifled through his things for a good long while, before finally locating the charger and plugging it into the phone.

It could actually be switched on — Wang Guangning was thankful. The quality of this phone was great indeed.

Even so, it was pointless to switch on the phone. A phone and SIM card that hadn't been used for four years — the number should have been invalid long ago.

But unexpectedly, not long after being switched on, the phone suddenly vibrated. A text message had been received. There was a short pause. Then, the phone vibrated again. Another text message.

Wang Guangning was stunned as he watched the phone continue to vibrate — and the text messages continued to stream in.

The vibrating continued for a long while, till Wang Guangning ended up tossing the phone onto the bed and watching the screen flash on and on. It took more than ten minutes for the phone to stop vibrating.

Only then did the befuddled Wang Guangning pick up the phone to take a look. A total of 423 text messages. He opened up the text message log — the same phone number filled the screen, repeating over and over again. It was the number that Zhang Lingyu had not changed for four years. Right then, a kind of sadness filled his heart. He took a light breath, and opened the first message:

Shoushou, recently, I've been compiling materials about going to Taiwan. If all goes well, I'll be able to head there in half a year.

The sending date was not long before he'd returned from Taiwan.

He opened the second message:

Shoushou, I've been self-studying Taiwanese recently, oh [a particle often used in Taiwanese Mandarin]. Though Taiwanese is hard to pick up, this young master has limitless talent and ability — I'll definitely be able to conquer this language, wahaha!

The third message:

Shoushou, today, a beauty in my company confessed to me. Though I rejected forthrightly and directly, but you have to realize from this that I'm a good-looking man who's extremely popular. So, you have to come back quickly, in case there comes a day I can't hold on anymore, and then you'll have nowhere to cry to.

The fourth message

The fifth message

.....

The 25th message:

Fck, the phone ran out of money again. *Shoushou*, I helped you top up your phone with 200 dollars again. Now you owe me 1,400 altogether for the phone fees. Either you pay it back quickly, or use your body as payment! Yeah, Young Master doesn't need that little bit of money, so why don't you just use your body as payment.

It was at this point that Wang Guangning could no longer tell apart the grief and heaviness gushing up within him. He exited from the text message log and checked the balance on his phone. It turned out there was still tens of dollars left.

Wang Guangning sat in a daze at the edge of the bed, until Zhang Lingyu walked into the room, rubbing dry his wet hair.

"What's up, *Shoushou*?" Zhang Lingyu saw that Wang Guangning seemed out of sorts, and went to sit next to him.

Only then did Wang Guangning come back to his senses. He held up the phone in his hand and opened the text message log for him to see: “Didn’t you ever think that I’d already changed my number early on?”

Zhang Lingyu glimpsed at the text message log. He blushed right away, then sighed: “What to do? Other than this, I didn’t know how to contact you.”

In the four years he had lost him, it could be said that this number was his consolation. Whenever he heard the message that the number was expiring, he’d immediately top up the SIM card. No matter how many times the text messages were delivered to a phone that was switched off, as long as the number hadn’t been taken by someone else, it meant a sliver of hope to him.

“Since you’re back, just erase all the messages.” Zhang Lingyu thought of how he would send a message to the number every time he missed him, and how those messages contained plenty of mush and flirtation. Sending those messages then was because he had no other way to express how much he missed him, but recalling them now was just plain embarrassing. He reached out to grab the phone.

Wang Guangning was quick to defend the phone: “No way. I’m going to keep them, and go through them slowly whenever I have time.”

No need to read all the text messages at one go. It was like an unconventional way of keeping a memoir, recording the four years he didn’t get to participate in, those everyday moments of Zhang Lingyu. All of them deserved to be carefully savoured.

Wang Guangning scooted over and kissed Zhang Lingyu, smiling brightly: “The phone fees I owe you, I won’t return in cash. I’ll pay it with my person.”

Hearing this, Zhang Lingyu nodded: “Then, make it a lifelong mortgage!”

ABG30D extra 5 (END)

Husbands' 100-Question Aptitude Test: Part IV

[continued from [extra 3](#); slightly NSFW but not enough to be tagged thusly]

71. How about the other person? [i.e., whether he's good at H]

WGN: Hmm, not bad.

ZLY: Whether he's good or not, he's fatal to me.

72. What you want the other person to say during H

WGN: No need to say a word.

ZLY: *Yamete*~ [i.e., Japanese for "Stop"; often associated with mixed resistance during H]

Ah Zhi:

73. What expression do you prefer on your partner's face during H?

WGN: Serious, gentle.

ZLY: *Shoushou*'s every expression seems to say, *Kimochi~ Ikuyo~* [i.e., Japanese for "Feels good~ I'm coming~"; often associated with H too]

WGN: From today onwards, no more porn allowed!

ZLY: = = My bad!

74. Is H without love OK?

WGN: Not OK.

ZLY: Not interested in ugly people.

Ah Zhi: There are many good-looking people around!

ZLY: In my eyes, apart from *Shoushou*, everyone else is an ugly bstrd! Lin Zhiluo too!

Ah Zhi: T T

75. Are you interested in S & M?

WGN: Stop giving him bad ideas.

ZLY: Heheh.

WGN: Wanna try? Gotta do S stuff, eh!

ZLY: S & M, this kinda perverted stuff — not at all!

76. Which prop do you want to try out most?

WGN: None.

ZLY: Many.

WGN: Wanna try the **spiked club**? [lit., wolf's teeth mace, a traditional Chinese weapon]

ZLY: *Shoushou* is just joking.

77. Ever used a prop during H?

WGN: Not so far.

ZLY: Here's hoping SpongeBob SquarePants won't make an appearance.

78. How do you look at ____ ? [fill in your own perverted blank cos I really have no ideas what this could be!]

WGN: This kind of thing can be looked at? Just call the police!

ZLY: *Shoushou* has grasped it very well.

79. If the other person is violated by someone else, would you discard him?

WGN: *recalls Lin Zhiluo* That assaulter's taste must be so nasty to be able to do such a thing?

ZLY: I'd stuff the spiked club up their **!

Ah Zhi:

80. Up to this point, which has been the most exciting location for H?

WGN: *cough* Outdoors.

ZLY: +1

Ah Zhi: You guys are truly bold~

81. Which location gave you the most anxiety?

WGN: Kitchen

ZLY: As long as *Shoushou* is there, I'll be anxious.

82. Has the *shou* ever initiated ** stuff?

WGN: *Shou*, she's talking about you!

ZLY: Yes, I'm often tempting the Big *Gong* Wang.

Ah Zhi: *cough cough*

83. What was the *gong*'s response then?

WGN:

ZLY: The *gong* said it's too big, too deep.

Ah Zhi: Your *gong-shou* positions are so intriguing~

84. How does the *gong* usually tempt the *shou*?

ZLY: *Gong* Wang, quickly reply.

WGN: Do you want to kneel on a keyboard tonight?

ZLY: Usually, *Gong* Wang just has to crook his finger and I'll go over.

Ah Zhi: Mr. Zhang, I've just found your integrity.

85. At the time, the *shou* led with oral? [really unsure about this; just my guess from context]

WGN:

ZLY: I stretched myself out immediately.

Ah Zhi: Sorry, Mr. Zhang, your integrity has just been shattered to pieces.

86. To you, what does the ideal H partner look like?

WGN: Looks good, poised, serious.

ZLY: Handsome! Smart, knows how to act spoilt.

WGN: Act spoilt?

ZLY: *Shoushou*, you heard it wrong.

Ah Zhi: Mr. Zhang, I tried gluing your integrity back together, but it's disintegrated completely.

87. Does your current partner fulfil your ideal?

WGN: Basically does.

ZLY: Simply beyond all expectations.

88. What would you do if the other person doesn't demand for your body anymore?

WGN: Get proper rest for two whole days.

ZLY: T T I've always been the one demanding from him.

89. At what age did you have your ‘first time’?

ZLY: The author is saying she’s too lazy to work out my age

Ah Zhi:

WGN: Younger than Lingyu by one year

Ah Zhi: That’s why this is a story with an older seme~ [i.e. *toshiue* story]

90. Was your partner then your partner now?

WGN: Yes.

ZLY: I’ve only had this lover all the while.

Ah Zhi: Luo Zihui

ZLY: Will you die if you don’t make trouble?

91. Where do you most like being kissed?

WGN: Lips.

ZLY: Abs~

92. Where do you most like kissing on the other person?

ZLY: The whole body!

WGN: Lips.

ZLY: *Shoushou*, you actually have more choices than that!

WGN: Such as bursting your chrysanthemum?

ZLY:, My bad

Ah Zhi: So actually this is an extra about a little *gong* losing his integrity~

93. Best way to please the other person during H?

WGN: *cough* Saying let’s have one more round ...

ZLY: Using my strength!

94. What do you think about during H?

WGN: Mind is often a blank. Just can’t think.

ZLY: So great! So deep! So tight all this can’t be. I’m mainly thinking about how I’m so happy to get to be with *Shoushou*.

Ah Zhi: Zhang Lingyu, have you ever considered contending for the [Golden Horse Awards](#)?

95. How many times of H a night?

WGN: Not always. Depends on the circumstances.

ZLY: My dream is to become the legendary JJ [euphemism for the male you-know-what], “Master of Seven Times a Night”.

96. During H, do you remove your own clothes, or does the other person help you?

WGN: Sometimes I do it myself, sometimes he does it.

ZLY: Sometimes neither of us do it.

Ah Zhi: So intense!

ZLY: Once the feeling comes, you can’t stop it. Who cares about clothes then?

Ah Zhi: So beastly~

97. What is H to you?

WGN: A way to refresh you in life.

ZLY: I only have one thing to say — the way to the little *shou*’s heart is through his chrysanthemum. It’s one part of what love is about.

98. What makes you happiest during H?

WGN: That the one I’m with is him.

Ah Zhi: So moving.

ZLY: When he shouts, “It’s too big!”

Ah Zhi:

WGN: When have I ever shouted that?

ZLY: Although you’ve not said it, I can feel it!

99. What’s a little painful during H?

WGN: That bstrd keeps wanting me to say he’s too big!

ZLY: Because it’s the truth~

Ah Zhi: This is a story about a delusional *gong* without integrity.

100. Please say a word to your lover.

WGN: No H for a week after we get home.

ZLY: *Shoushou*, my bad. I’ll cut off whatever it is about me that makes you unhappy.

WGN: JJ.

Ah Zhi: Zhang *Gonggong* [i.e. eunuch], how are you! Goodbye, Zhang *Gonggong*!

The translator has something to say:

And that's a wrap! Thank you for completing the journey of ABG30D together and encouraging me by enjoying the story and translation along the way! Not a perfect novel (nor translation!), but undeniably a fluffy little romance to distract in difficult times.

If you have the equivalent of 17 USD on you, or when you can save up that amount, please pay for this work by purchasing [its VIP chapters on JJWXC](#) (they cost about 8 USD, but the minimum amount of credits you can purchase on the site is 17 USD). [Click here](#) for a step-by-step guide on how to do so. Then all you need is PayPal, woohoo!

I don't intend to pick up another web novel all too soon. However, if there's one (or more?) that you've been yearning to finish, but the translator has lain dormant for many moons (close to a year?), please feel free to suggest the title in the comments. Who knows, I may get inspired again!

Till we meet again, take care of yourself and each other!

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